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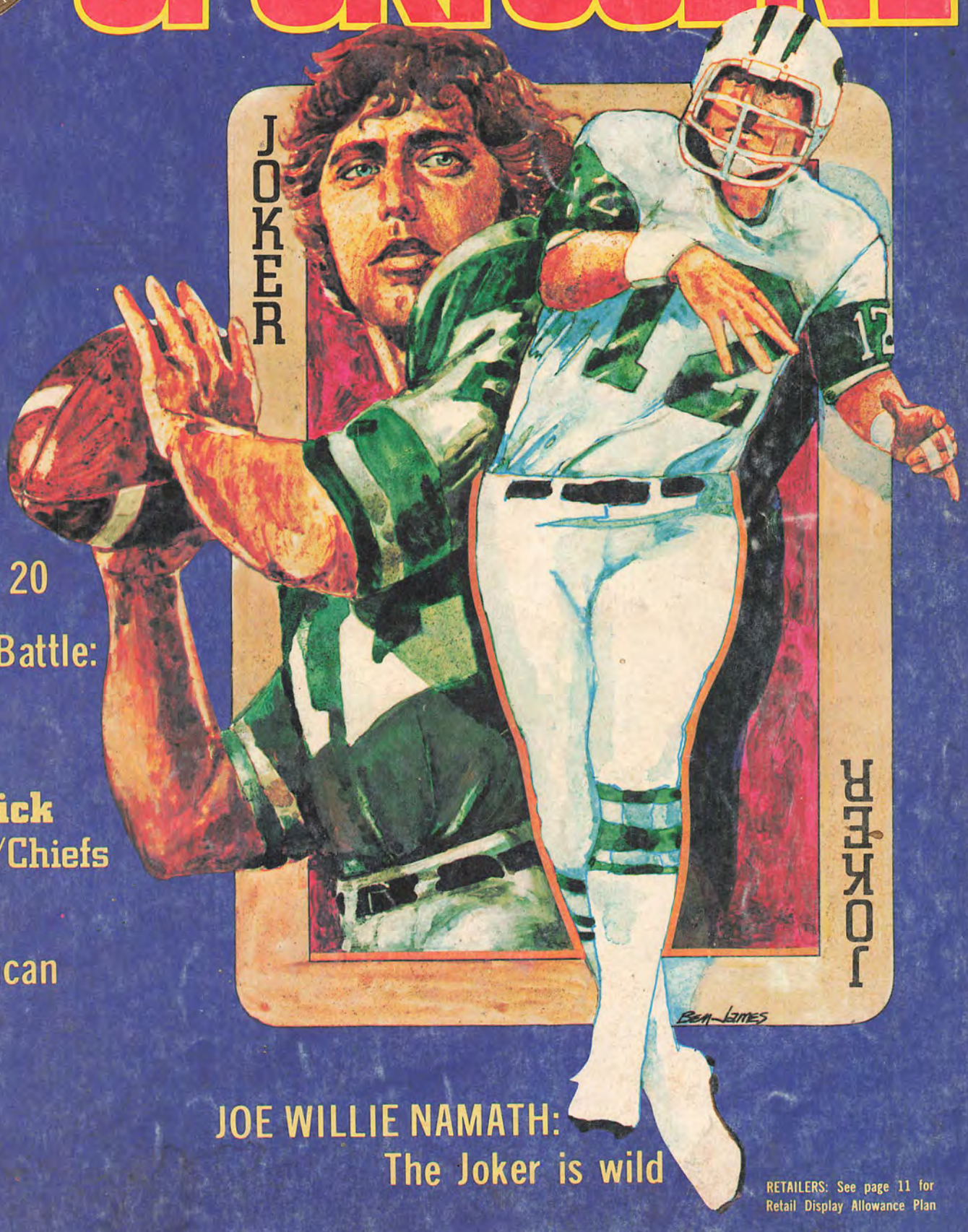
Chris Schenkel's

FOOTBALL SPORTSCENE



Big Eight Packs Top 20

Heisman Battle: Pruitt vs. Q'Backs

Super Pick Cowboys/Chiefs

PLUS All-American All-NFL

JOE WILLIE NAMATH: The Joker is wild

RETAILERS: See page 11 for Retail Display Allowance Plan

5 mistakes most car buyers make. And how to avoid them.

Who'll drive it?
Me? My wife?
The kids?
All of us?

Where will we drive it most?
City? Country? Back roads?
Expressways?

How'll we use it?
Recreation? Business?
Long trips?
Number of passengers?

Which options?
"Air"? Power steering?
Rear window defroster?

What kind of car?
Sports car? Station wagon?
Family sedan?

What do we
want most from it?
Economy?
Performance?
Hauling capacity?

1 Failure to analyze needs.

Buying a new car should be a great experience. Living with it should be, too. But if it was bought mostly on emotion, all too often you can end up with a car that doesn't fit your needs or budget. Before you buy, examine your needs closely, and match them to the many product alternatives.

(*"Car Buying Made Easier" contains descriptions, quizzes and a checklist to help you analyze your needs and get a better understanding of what's available to meet them.*)

2 "Good deal" more important than good service.

Before you buy, ask yourself questions about service convenience and dealer service facilities. The most important consideration in any "deal" is what happens *after* you buy—when you come back for service or warranty work.

(*Section I, Chapter 5, of "Car Buying Made Easier" discusses the dealer.*)

3 Failure to test-drive.

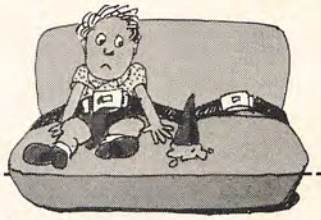
Test-drive the model you're considering, if you haven't driven it before. Inspect it. Think about it. Then decide.

(*Section I, Chapter 7, covers test-driving in detail.*)

4 The wrong interior.

Do you know the advantages and disadvantages of bucket, bench or split-bench seats? What about cloth vs. vinyl upholstery? Or leather or knitted vinyl?

The answers are in Chapter 3, Section I and Chapter 8, Section II of "Car Buying Made Easier."



5 Not sending for this free book.

As you may have guessed by now, it's called "Car Buying Made Easier." More than half-a-million people have already written for it. Many of them say it helps. Maybe it can help you, too. It's free—which is a lot cheaper than learning from your mistakes.

Ford

...has a better idea (we listen better)

For your copy, write:
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Address _____

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COMING AT YOU EVERY MONTH

"Both teams are blessed with tremendous coaching and tremendous personnel. And any time the coaching and personnel are tremendous, Chris, the conditioning should be tremendous." *— Swordblades Wilkerman, former NCAA coach of the year and advisor to the President's Council on Skin Defects. (From the record album, Instant Replay.)*

We have no way of knowing, of course, if the above passage refers to living persons. We tend to doubt it, although the names do sound familiar. The point is that Swordblades, if he existed, could have been describing any two of a hundred teams that ring our chimes and stir our juices every autumn.

It could be Oklahoma and Nebraska, last year's classic matchup. And this year's. Or maybe Texas and Arkansas. Notre Dame and Michigan State. USC versus UCLA.

In a sense, this is the difference between the amateur game and commercial football. Now, I don't mean that as a putdown of the pros. Pro football is, as they keep telling us, the game for our times, the times being violent, as times usually are.

But the colleges have at least three things going for them that the pros lack, namely: 1) A campus, where the old grads can relight the bonfires of their youth, 2) pretty, fresh young coeds, some of whom still want to be homecoming queen, and 3) the other differences don't matter.

Pro football, to be sure, is sport risen to the level of a science. It has ridden television as though it were the great American surfboard, always hanging ten.

And now there arrives a new magazine to combine the best of both worlds — a monthly edition of SPORTSCENE, coming at you from September through February, offering the clash and excellence of the pros; the variety and pageantry of the college game. It's designed for the guy who gets worked up over HIS team, who roots and sweats and kicks the TV, who for three hours on a Saturday or a Sunday blots out his job and his wife and the real world. We made SPORTSCENE for him.

Maybe he's the fellow whose heart flutters when he hears the stirring cry, "Fight fiercely, Harvard." Or maybe he enjoys a trip to the past and the sport's enduring legends. Such as the one about the Praying Colonels of Centre College, whose coach, Uncle Charlie Morgan, whispered urgently to his team before a game: "Down on your knees, boys, here comes Grantland Rice."

As for me, I enjoy the pro game, but I guess I'm a sucker for the unsculptured quality of college football. I remember listening once to the colorful, tobacco-squirting Frank Howard, who formerly coached the Clemson Tigers.

Howard was recalling an incident that had involved two writers who were among a group touring the preseason camps. "They had never been around ole Howard befoah," he said. "They wanted to talk to one of ouah playuhs so I said, 'Sure, hey, Crane, get youah ass ovah heah, son.'

"Well, they was a sudden hush. The only noise was these two young spo't writahs gasping. I sized 'em up right away. They was from VIRGINIA. So I says, 'Look, boys, if I was coaching at Princeton or one of them Ivy League schools, I'd say, Crane, propel yo'self to this destination with the greatest possible velocity.

"But this ain't Princeton. This is Clemson. So I say, 'Crane, get youah ass ovah heah, son, and he knows exactly what I mean."

And, in retrospect, so do we.

Chris Schenkel

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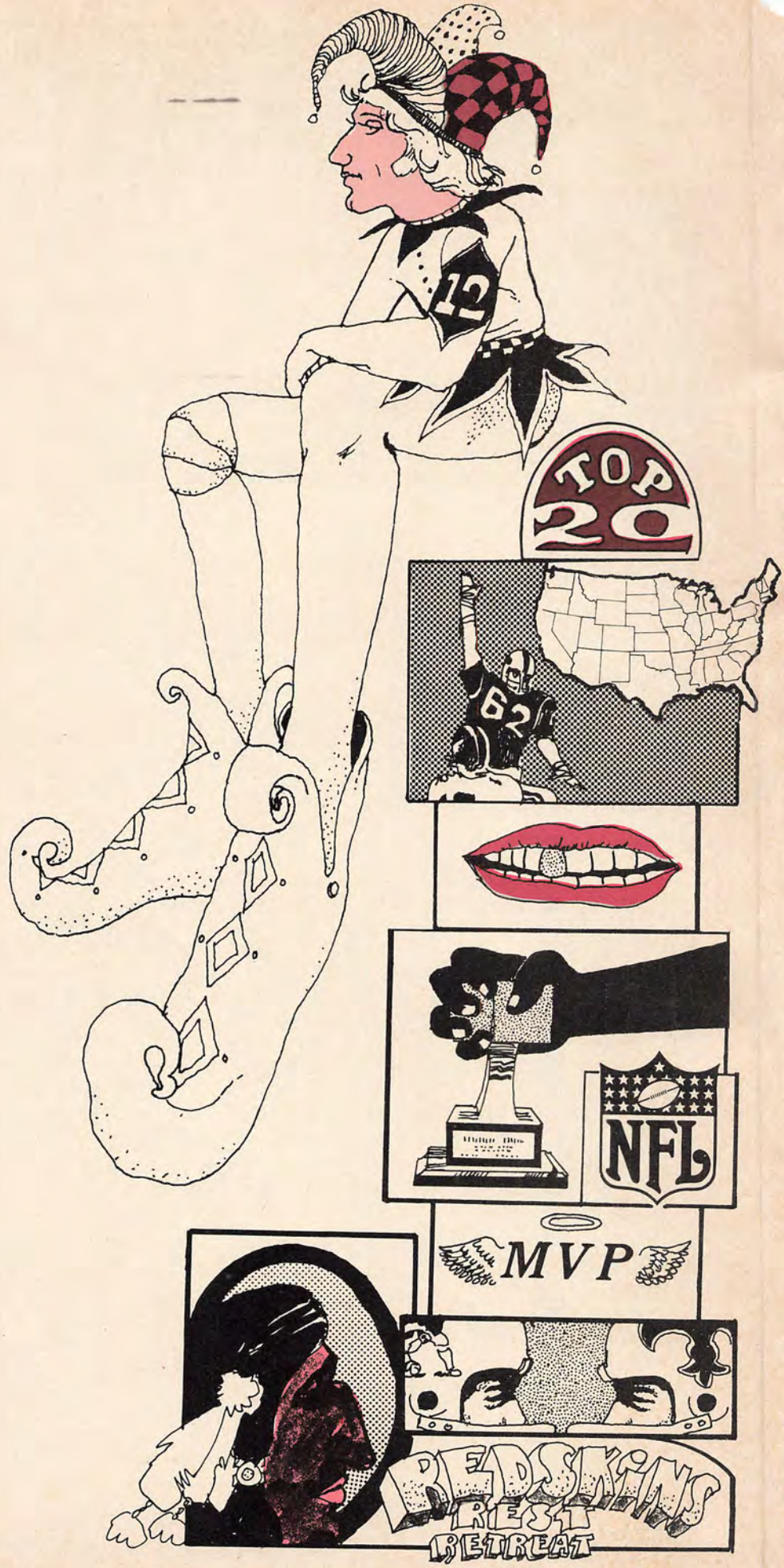
COVER

Artist Ben James has produced the two visions of Joe Namath — the poised, blue-eyed killer; and his Nureyev grace in flinging a football. Joe Willie is on our cover because he is the one man who can turn the entire NFL around.



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Chris Schenkel's **FOOTBALL**

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PLUS NFL Schedule, Pro and College TV, Six-Page Action Photo Section

DEALING FROM A PAT HAND

The Dallas Cowboys are everybody's Super Pick but Namath calls his own game

Back when the leagues were at war, Don Klosterman tried to induce John Brodie to leap from San Francisco to Houston — for $900,000. Then came the merger, and Brodie first thought of leaping from the Golden Gate bridge. On second thought, he demanded, and got, the 900 thou from the NFL. Klosterman has since gone onto bigger things, such as a Super Bowl title as general manager at Baltimore, and so has Brodie, who is still collecting from the War Fund.

Thus, Klosterman and Brodie are still on speaking terms, even the best of terms as far as the quarterback is concerned, and one day last season Brodie asked his friend from the "other league" to explain something to him. "What is all this stuff about Namath being the greatest quarterback?" Brodie said. "I can't see it."

At the time, nobody was seeing Namath except possibly Ann-Margret from the back of an easy-rider hog. He had missed most of the 1970 season with a wrist injury, and Detroit's Mike Lucci had crumpled one of his famous bum knees in the '71 summer season to knock him out of action again. Then came week Number 11, and Namath's return to action coincided with a visit by Brodie and San Francisco. In just a little more than two periods of action, Namath whistled three touchdowns through a good San Francisco defense, and almost pulled a victory out of a 24-21 defeat — leaving the 49ers hanging on and a little shell-shocked at the end.

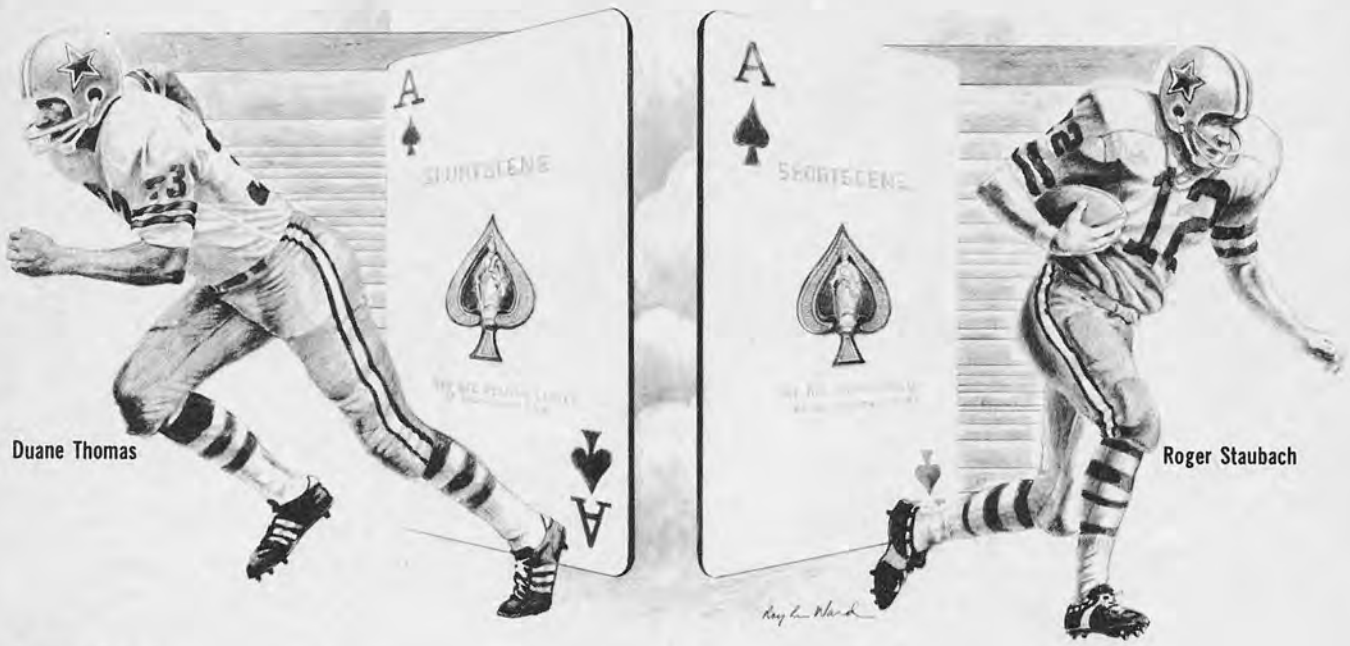
Klosterman sent Brodie a short telegram the next day: NOW YOU HAVE SEEN JOE WILLIE.

The question is, however, will NFL fans again see a healthy Namath go 14 games for the New York Jets? It is the one question that could turn everyone's pre-season calculations completely around. No other NFL star — not even Gale Sayers at Chicago — can lift a flawed team to championship contention the way Namath lifts the Jets. His passing is only part of it. "There's no way to describe the feeling on the team when Joe came in the 49er game," says Al Atkinson, not always one of Namath's wildest admirers. "The crowd went a little nuts, and I guess we did, too."

Namath's leadership — the item which earned the Jets a Super Bowl title — is not reserved for such special occasions. It is an ongoing thing. Says an NFL scouting specialist: "He's got the quickest arm in the league, probably the quickest there's ever been in the league. And he's got quick feet. Nobody sets up faster than Namath. He'll set up at nine yards faster than anybody else at seven. And he's in *charge* of the game. He's the complete quarterback and nobody can touch him — but what good is he if he can only play four or five games a year for you?"

There's that question again. Joe Namath is the joker in the NFL deck (see cover). At peak form, you'd have to go with him to beat out both Miami and Baltimore in the AFC East, the most exciting division in the NFL. And in a Money Game, should he get there, you'd have to go with him stronger.

Without Namath, the Jets are a third-place team, and the rest



of the NFL's fortunes are fairly easy to handicap.

The final whistle had hardly signaled the Dallas Cowboy's Super Bowl victory before there was talk about a new "dynasty" such as the one Lombardi put together. "We are going to be like the old Yankees," said Dallas president Tex Schramm, "like the old Boston Celtics. This team is not as good as it's going to be."

Whether such lofty ambition is realized or not, Dallas certainly must be regarded as the front-runner in this season's race for the Super Bowl. They have aces back to back — with the running of Duane Thomas, and the number one ranked passing of Roger Staubach — and the NFL deck seems stacked in their favor. They will be prohibitive favorites to win their NFC East division, and when they are once again in the title playoff round you have to like their chances on experience alone: The bridesmaid champs who became real champs have been in 11 playoff games the past six years, and now they have won five of the last six.

Staubach, the MVP of the Super Bowl, was the first quarterback with less than five years experience to lead his team to a championship since rookie Bob Waterfield did the trick with the Cleveland Rams in 1945. Now in his fourth season, and going into the opening game established as his team's Number 1, the ex-sailor figures to be much better all around.

The two great moves of the off-season in the National Conference were the transfers of two New York Giants — Fran Tarkenton to Minnesota, Fred Dryer to Los Angeles (via New England). In the immortal words of Joe Kuharich, such trades are rare but not unusual. These two may end in determining the NFC Super Bowl entrant. Tarkenton, if allowed his customary freedom, can give Minnesota an offense it has never had since

The Road To L. A.

American Conference		National Conference	
East:	1. Miami 2. NY Jets 3. Baltimore 4. Buffalo 5. New England	East:	1. Dallas 2. Washington 3. Philadelphia 4. St. Louis 5. NY Giants
Central:	1. Pittsburgh 2. Houston 3. Cleveland 4. Cincinnati	Central:	1. Minnesota 2. Detroit 3. Chicago 4. Green Bay
West:	1. Kansas City 2. Oakland 3. Denver 4. San Diego	West:	1. Los Angeles 2. San Francisco 3. Atlanta 4. New Orleans
WILD CARD:	Oakland	WILD CARD:	Washington
Playoffs:	Kansas City over Pittsburgh, Miami over Oakland; Kansas City over Miami	Playoffs:	Los Angeles over Washington, Dallas over Minnesota; Dallas over Los Angeles

Super Bowl: Dallas over Kansas City

the Purple Gang defense arrived (no, not even with Joe Kapp did the Vikings quite have the explosions Fran will bring). And if no one could catch Minnesota in the NFC Central when Bud Grant was dallying between Cuozzo and Snead and Lee, there seems little hope of catching them now.

Dryer's arrival in LA should revitalize Merlin Olsen, who had fallen on harder times since Deacon Jones started sliding over the hill, and should in fact restore the old firm of the Fearsome Foursome, a title the Ram front four had yielded to the Purple Gang, if not the Doomsday Four at Dallas.

Tommy Prothro worked one of the more remarkable coaching jobs in recent years when he rebuilt a trade-riddled defense and had the Rams hanging in there for the title until the last Sunday. He established along the way a mystifying mastery over the 49ers, beating them three times, twice when it vitally counted.

With Dallas, Minnesota and the surprising Rams ticketed for division titles, there remains the annual suspenseful dogfight for the Wild Card role in the playoffs. It will again be a three-way battle among Washington (last year's added entry), Detroit (the Wild Carder of 1970) and San Francisco. As fate and the NFL office would have it, each of those teams has the easiest out-of-division schedule in their respective groupings. (See box.)

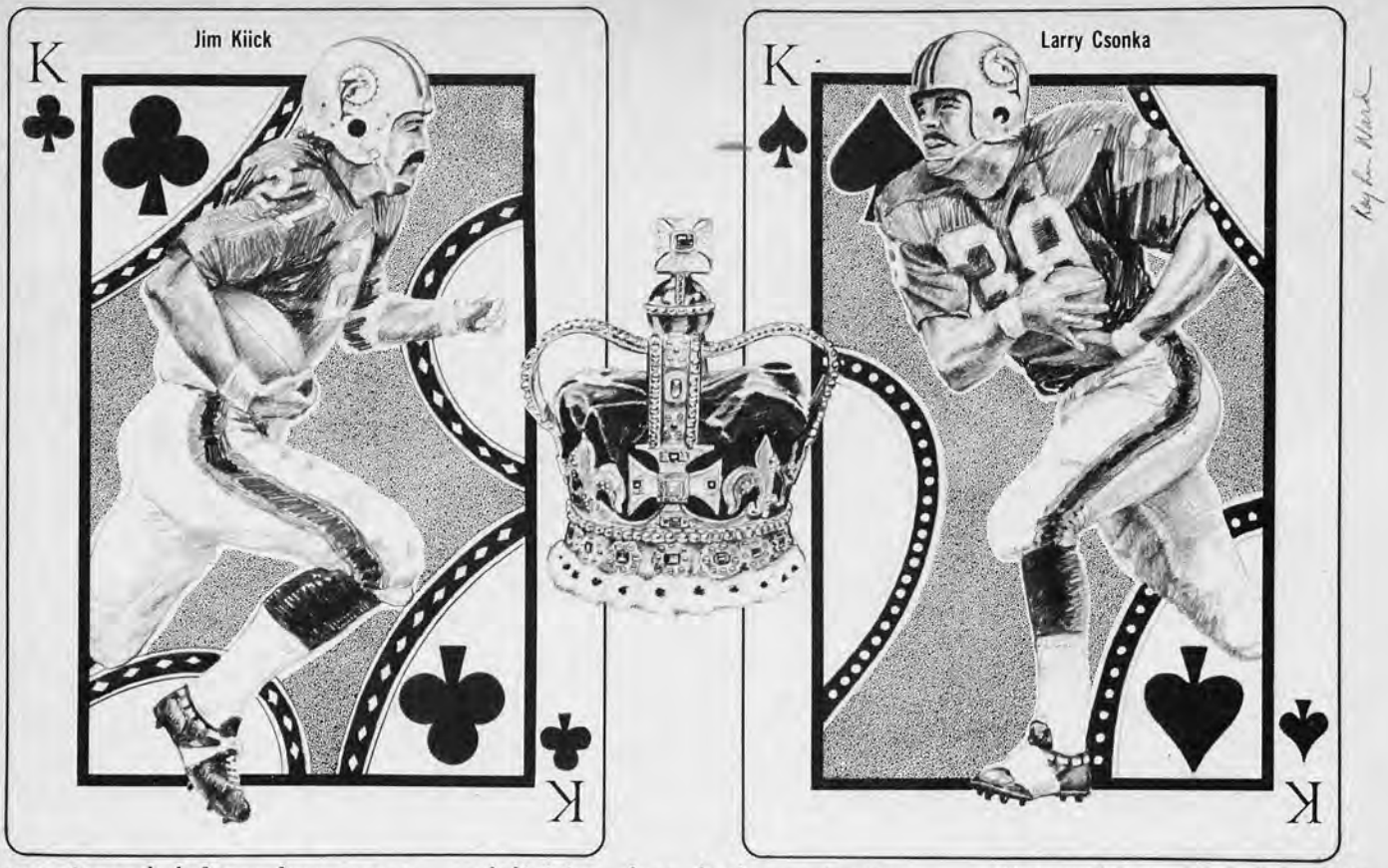
Washington's non-division foes had a winning percentage last season of only .432. Detroit's were .435. San Francisco's were .467. Not much edge there to anybody. Far more than the expected division winners, each of these contenders has a major problem: Washington faces a muddled quarterback situation; Detroit hopes rookie Herb Orvis will give them a pass rush that disappeared when Alex Karras became a celebrity instead of a football player; San Francisco must wonder if John Brodie is suddenly and fatefully past his prime.

The Redskins, with a healthy Charley Taylor and a healthy Larry Brown *and* an Allen-accomodated Sonny Jurgensen, should be the Wild Card survivor again. In fact, if all three of those factors come together, they could run Dallas a scary race for the division crown.

The Cowboys — if they follow their form — get another break in the shuffle of the playoff pairings. As they are drawn, the Central champion plays at the West champion and the Wild Card team at the East champion's stadium — *unless* the Wild Card team is from the East. Since it appears that Washington will be the Wild Carder, it means the Redskins will play at Los Angeles, and Minnesota will play at Dallas. Again if Dallas wins, then the Cowboys will retain the home field advantage for the conference title game — and, remember, they have never lost a game in their new half astrodome, Texas Stadium.

The American Conference races will be far more confused, with the possible exception of the West Division, where the Kansas City Chiefs (thanks to retaining the talents of Lenny Dawson) appear not only the class of that quartet but indeed the class of the whole conference, as indeed they may have been last season when an inexplicable failure by Jan Stenerud derailed them from a return shot at the Super title.

The Jets, as we know, can take it all behind Joe Willie. Baltimore must share San Francisco's trepidations about an aging quarterback. Miami belied youth and an in-



experienced defense last season, but are unlikely to put everything together so neatly again. Still, the Dolphins face fewer questions than do the Colts or the Jets, and they will be solid favorites in the AFC East.

You could throw a blanket over the four AFC Central teams — and the rest of the league probably will. Cleveland had an astonishing 9-5 season while limping along with Bill Nelsen, and now coach Nick Skorich is determined to begin the delayed "Mike Phipps Era" with the Browns. The edge here should go to Pittsburgh, simply because of Terry Bradshaw's inevitable emergence into NFL stardom, and a Joe Greene-powered defense.

With Miami, Pittsburgh and Kansas City thus ticketed for title berths, only one thing seems fairly certain about the Wild Card entry: it will not come from the Central Division. The East runner-up (Baltimore or New York) will be vying for that fourth spot in the playoffs with Oakland, which now has assumed the Cowboys' old mantle of coming close but no cigar. The Raiders are boosted in their chances by virtue of the easiest schedule in the league. Their out-of-division foes had a winning percentage of .361 last year.

The American Conference playoffs then would proceed as follows: Kansas City at Pittsburgh, Oakland at Miami; Miami at Kansas City.

But nothing — and in particular no NFL season — ever pans out in such simple anticipation. There's always some character like J. W. Namath turning a busted flush into a winning hand.

Rating the Schedules

When the "old NFL" had 16 teams, a beautiful equality existed in the schedule. Each team played the same identical opponents as the teams against whom it was competing for a division title. But with today's 13-13 split, there is no way to keep everything even. The wheel of fortune now spins out the league schedule. Each team plays home-and-home series with its division rivals, but the other games are a hodgepodge of cripples and toughies. Here is the rating on the out-of-division schedules, figuring the wins and losses of opponents from the 1971 season. Example: San Diego's non-division foes had a combined winning percentage of .648 last year, giving the Chargers the toughest schedule in the NFL.

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East		Central		West	
New England	.430	Cleveland	.410	Oakland	.361
Miami	.516	Houston	.490	Denver	.486
NY Jets	.532	Cincinnati	.523	Kansas City	.505
Baltimore	.537	Pittsburgh	.528	San Diego	.648
Buffalo	.600				

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East		Central		West	
Washington	.432	Detroit	.435	San Francisco	.467
NY Giants	.481	Minnesota	.514	Los Angeles	.472
Dallas	.519	Chicago	.519	Atlanta	.476
Philadelphia	.519	Green Bay	.581	New Orleans	.505
St. Louis	.622				

Colorado's turn to thank Rockne & Prof

It all began innocently enough when Knute Rockne, the grizzled taskmaster of Notre Dame football, invited an Illinois economics professor and a Chicago dressmaker to lunch in South Bend back in 1926.

The professor, Frank G. Dickinson, an addicted follower of college football, spent his leisure time perfecting his own mathematical formula of rating all the teams in his section of the country. The story goes that he mentioned it in passing to his class one day and an alert young sportswriter for the campus newspaper dashed off to write a story about it for the next day's edition. Jack Rissman, the dressmaker, was himself a devoted follower of the game and after his attention had been called to the story he put in a call to Professor Dickinson, suggesting that he annually select the top teams for him. In a master stroke of public relations, Rissman said he would foot the bill for a trophy to be presented the No. 1 ranked team.

Rockne, ever alert to new avenues of exposure for his Fighting Irish, gathered both men around the table and, after picking up the tab, suggested that they make the ranking encompass the entire country, thereby selecting a national champion. And, er, by the way, why not pre-date the award a couple of years while you're at it?

The professor and dressmaker agreed and, thus, the legendary Four Horsemen of Notre Dame, the undisputed class of the 1924 football season, rode to the first official national championship — two years late.

From the Dickinson System was to spring a half dozen other methods by which a college football king would be crowned each year. The Park H. Davis System expanded from a regional power rating to include the entire nation. In 1929, the Dunkel System made its first appearance. Magazines like *Illustrated Football Annual* got in on the act. So did the Football Writers of America and

the Helms Athletic Foundation. By 1936 the Associated Press recognized growing reader interest in such speculation and began its nationwide rankings. United Press International weighed the idea for the next 14 years then jumped on the bandwagon.

Of the lot, the AP and UPI — the Wire Service Polls, if you prefer — have become the voices of authority. Each week during the autumn madness they stoke the reader's interest by ranking the nation's powerhouses for everyone from the *Roswell Daily Record* to the *New York Times*. They are now as much a part of the fall spectacular as pom-pom girls, Heisman candidates and your neighborhood ticket scalper. To the die-hard Ohio State follower, Woody is just a year away from building another Buckeye powerhouse. Down South, the Bear is shuffling his boys into a new-fangled offense so's the Tide can reclaim the brass ring for all the good folk of Alabama. In Texas, folksy ol' Darrell keeps insisting he doesn't pay much mind to that sort of thing but does admit that "if somebody's having a beauty contest you dang sure want 'em to vote you pretty." Southern Cal's John McKay shrugs and says, "All I know about the polls is that my wife reads them, the kids read them, my neighbors read them and *I* read them so there's something to them." Ara Parseghian, his attitude none too far removed from that of Rockne's, flatly admits that the coveted, mythical, elusive, magic Number 1 ranking is what his kids put their game faces on for.

During the past couple of decades this frenzied power struggle has bounced from coast to coast, in possession at one time or another of Eastern stalwart Syracuse and Far West super team Southern Cal. Alabama in the Deep South, Texas in the Southwest and Midwestern entries like Notre Dame, Ohio State and Minnesota have basked in the all-too-brief but oh-so-sweet glory of being recognized as the Number (By Gawd) One, plu-perfect, best doggone college football team from sea to shining sea.

That much-traveled symbol of excellence was last seen in Lincoln, Nebraska, in the death grip of Bob Devaney's polished

Cornhuskers. It's been there for two years now. And no team since the invention of the modern day poll has ever won three consecutive national championships — a statement all Nebraskans from Johnny Carson to Farmer Brown will tell you won't hold true after the 1972 campaign goes into the record books.

For Devaney to ride toward his promised retirement on a third title, however, he'll have to keep a wary eye on his Big Eight neighbors.

Time was when Colorado was a place you went to ski and look at the purple mountain's majesty. Football was on the fall schedule to be sure, but the governor wasn't exactly running around dressed in black and gold, proclaiming "Go Buffalo Day" to inspire Colorado teams to greater heights. Folsom Field was a nice place to take the kids and watch a game without being caught up in all the traffic. There was no talk about expanding the seating capacity; that would have to come after 50,000 began flocking on a regular paying basis.

That, of course, was back in the heyday of Bud Wilkinson's Oklahoma Sooners, the team which claimed a couple of No. 1's in the '50s and won 47 straight games and had the press writing cute little things about how the Big Eight was really OU and the Seven Dwarfs.

Times have changed. Most of the Seven Dwarfs are now full grown, people work overtime to expand the seating capacity of Colorado's home field, and the focus of nationwide attention is now beamed toward the Big Eight, out where not one, not two, but three teams look capable of keeping the national championship in the family.

Nebraska, the form charts say, has been there and retains enough firepower to make it three straight. The Sooners, jet-propelled backs and all, weren't satisfied with being No. 2 last year. And Colorado, the surprise No. 3 finisher in '71, opens the season with a truckload of talent and, perhaps most important, a schedule which Colorado backers swear was made in the Great Beyond. Coach Eddie Crowder's squad will own home field advantage against its three chief adversaries — Nebraska, Oklahoma and Iowa State. By that advantage, the Buffs would appear to have the inside track on making their first appearance at the top of the national rankings.

Colorado quarterback Ken Johnson runs option with Charlie Davis trailing

There is, however, a drawback to being a blood relative in a family which houses the manpower and muscle currently being displayed by the Big Eight. And that drawback is quickly recognized by folks like Penn State, Arizona State, Washington, Ole Miss and all other pretenders to the crown. They're all sitting in the wings, waiting for Col-

orado, Nebraska and Oklahoma to beat each other to a bloody pulp, opening the way for one of them to come galloping into the spotlight.

And, certainly, should that kind of family fussing deny the Big Eight another title there are heir apparents whose credentials are spit-polished and ready for display.

Joe Paterno's Nittany Lions probably did their best PR job on behalf of Eastern football yet when they rode into Dallas last January and manhandled the Texas Wishbone in the Cotton Bowl. With John Hufnagel again pulling the trigger the East could possibly see its first national champ since Syracuse turned the trick back in 1959.

Arizona State turned the first annual Fiesta Bowl into a touchdown orgy last year and returns virtually all hands from its jackrabbit-quick attack, and Washington, while facing a far more dangerous schedule, has a young man named Sonny Sixkiller to blaze the trail. A bunch of fuzzy-faced kids have grown up at Ole Miss and will man a senior-junior laden squad this fall that should have folks rushing down to pick up their new Rebel flags, and Arkansas followers will tell you point-blank that not only do the Razorbacks have the makings of the best team in the nation but will be quarter backed by the No. 1 player, a slingshot-armed Louisiana man named Joe Ferguson.

On October 21st, Southern Cal plays Washington in a game which not only will likely decide the outcome of the Pac 8 race and who's going to be in Pasadena New Year's Day but will also have much bearing on the national rankings.

It will, to no one's surprise, again be that kind of a season, filled with showdowns, shootouts, surprises and superlatives. So filled with intangibles is the game of college football that this business of brashly predicting who will reign supreme is just short of journalistic suicide. Who knows, Illinois just may be able to weather its impossible schedule. Ohio State may have the good fortune finally to stay healthy. Texas may solve its quarterback problems and Notre Dame may successfully rebuild its defense.

Thus goes the never-ending, always-exciting battle to be Number 1, a prize grown bigger than Rockne or the prof ever dreamed.

Chris Schenkel's

SPORTSCENE

Month

Begins in September

The pageantry and romance of the college game, the rhubarb-flavored world of the pros — all of it football, and all of it served up by the nation's greatest sportswriters, coming your way every month.

A random sampling. . . .

Where Did the Giants' Money Go? A best-selling New York author uncovers surprising reasons for the demise of a once-great team.

The Rams Hire a Hippie Fred Dryer is an Easy Rider who lives in a Volkswagen, but he restores the fourth power to the Fearsome Foursome.

Daddy Was a Pro LSU quarterback Bert Jones is likely to be the NFL's Number 1 draftee, **despite** learning the game at his father's knee.

Diary of a Lion Doctor The dramatic blow-by-blow account by the Detroit team physician, including the tragedy of Chuck Hughes. The **Sportscene Extra.**

Also: Chris Schenkel's column . . . The NFL in Paris, in color . . . Lovable Don Rickles cuts up the pros, one by one . . . and much more.

ON YOUR NEWSSTANDS SEPT 5

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FROM LEHIGH TO LONG BEACH

A coast-to-coast preview of the college champions . . . and the losers who also come to play.

Lions In Longest Running Show Since MGM's Leo

Joe Paterno's Penn State Nittany Lions again appear to be the cream of the Eastern crop and, despite the loss of legendary backs like Lydell Mitchell and Franco Harris, could well take up where they left off last January when they dumped Texas in the Cotton Bowl.

Returning to direct the Wing T/Power I attack is All-East quarterback John Hufnagel who has posted 16 victories in his 17 starts and ranks as a good bet to break all the Penn State records for passing and total offense before season's end. Junior Tom Donchez, who stepped in as a starter for Harris in four games last year (including the Cotton Bowl) will have the fullback job to himself this season and converted defensive back John Cappelletti, leading ground gainer on the frosh team two years ago, steps into the very large shoes of Mitchell. While he may not own the power of his predecessor, he is a step faster. Guard Carl Schaukowitch is the man around whom Paterno will rebuild his offensive forward wall. The primary concern defensively is at linebacker where All-America Charlie Zapiec and Gary Gray, the team's leading tackler for two years, are gone. Still around, however, is outside linebacker John Skorupan who often finds himself cast as a fourth defensive back in the Penn State 4-4 alignment and center fielder-type safetyman Gregg Ducatte. Heading the list up front is end Bruce Bannon who was voted the top defensive player in the Cotton Bowl game.

A rehabilitated Syracuse team could push Penn State for Eastern honors as coach Ben Schwartzwalder welcomes back a game-tested backfield, a talented group of receivers, All-America defensive tackle Joe Ehrmann and a noteworthy crop of linebackers. Bob Woodruff returns at quarterback, directing an attack which again finds Roger Praetorius and Marty Januszkiewicz providing perhaps the best running tandem since Floyd Little and Larry Csonka were in the same backfield. Wingback Greg Allen, who missed last season with hepatitis, provides the much needed outside threat. Seldom considered a major weapon in the Syracuse offensive, the passing game may come into its own this fall with Woodruff throwing to Allen, tight end Rich Steiner and wide receiver Gary Sweat. Ross Sposato and Chuck Chulada return at guards and Mike McNeely is ranked as a blue ribbon prospect at center. Battling for the tackle spots will be lettermen Dave Lapham and Steve Dieso and newcomers Steve Scully and Jerry Scharoun. Ehrmann, an All-America pick in '70 who sat out last year with a leg injury, returns his 6-5, 260-pound frame to the defensive front five where

Joe Wilson (40) lends talent to Holy Cross attack

he should receive help from the likes of David King, Chuck Boniti, Len Masci and Walt Sapp. In the secondary, lettermen George Yencho, Ken Sawyer and Jim Longley are back.

With Ed Marinaro having rushed for his final collegiate yard, broken his last NCAA record and had his say about the folks who pass out the Heisman Trophy, the Ivy League can again get back to the business of worrying about things like who's going to win the championship.

Dartmouth coach Jake Crouthamel took one of the greenest Indian squads in recent history to a 8-1 record last year and shared the title with Marinaro and Cornell. Only four defensive and three offensive starters must be replaced before the season opener, and with veteran quarterback Steve Stetson and running back Rich Klupchak returning, the Indian attack could be more lethal than ever. The forward wall, anchored by All-Ivy center Bob Funk, appears solid and the defense, built around all-league end Tom Csatari and Fred Radke, could prove to be the best in the league.

Columbia, steadily moving toward the front after years as a second division club, lost heavily in the offensive line and secondary but the backfield is rich in experience and talent. Quarterback Don Jackson, who ranked second to Marinaro in total offense last fall, returns to direct an attack which features the experience of running backs Steve Howland and Rick Assaf and, perhaps, the footwork of a multi-talented sophomore runner named John Jones.

At Harvard they refer to the multiple offense with a heavy emphasis on the multiple since the arrival of head coach Joe Restic who came to town with a playbook full of formations he used while coaching the Canadian League Hamilton Tiger-Cats. Eric Crone and Jim Stoeckel will provide a strong one-two punch at quarterback while running backs Rich Gatto (also the team's top receiver last year) and Ted Demars will again be on hand — whenever Restic chooses to leave a set back out of a pass pattern. John Hagerty provides another prime target for Crimson passes. The hard-to-defense style of play plus the fact Harvard plays seven of its nine games at home could vault it into contention.

Yale comes off a 4-5 year with five offensive and six defensive returnees and an unsettled situation at quarterback. This year's sophomore crop, however, is one of the best in recent years and could plug many of the holes left by graduation. The defense could well prove to be the guiding force with such leaders as end Bruce Michel, tackle Bob Leyen and linebacker Bob Perschel heading the cast. Much of the offensive firepower will rest with Dick Janron, fourth leading rusher in the league last year, and receiver Kim Hammerberg who caught 15 for 189 yards last year.

There will be a whole new offensive philosophy at Cornell this season with Marinaro gone. The emphasis may well switch to the air attack with versatile quarterback Mark Allen moving into the spotlight. Seventh in total offense last year, he was too busy handing off to No. 44 to do much passing, ending the year with just 26 completions in 63 tries for 338 yards.

Princeton returns All-Ivy guard Steve Curtis and standout defensive end Mike Kincaid but will have to have help from a mob of newcomers if it is to break into the upper division. At

How they'll finish

Ivy

Dartmouth, Columbia, Harvard, Yale, Cornell, Princeton, Pennsylvania, Brown.

Independents

Winners: Penn State, Syracuse, West Virginia, Villanova, Delaware, Army, Holy Cross, Lehigh.

Losers: Boston, Pittsburgh, Navy, Colgate, Bucknell, Temple, Rutgers, Lafayette.

Pennsylvania they proudly point to split end Don Clune, a 6-4 junior who led the league in receptions last year with 34 catches for 746 yards and four touchdowns. Brown has more manpower and no where to go but up after a dismal '71 season which saw it go winless in league play.

Bobby Bowden's West Virginia Mountaineers could emerge as the surprise team of the East as experience is the byword. Quarterback Bernie Galiffa, who threw for 1,543 yards as a junior, returns as does his favorite target, 9.4 speedster Harry Blake. Three of the top four rushers from last year's 7-4 squad — Kerry Marbury, Brian Chiles, and Mike Nelson — also return. Only one defensive spot was left vacant by graduation, promising perhaps the best unit WV has fielded in several years. A top-flight quarterback, a bevy of receivers, good running backs and a veteran defense could well gain the Mountainmen some national attention this fall.

Boston University will field its youngest and most inexperienced team in recent history this fall as coach Larry Naviaux must find replacements for his entire offensive backfield. Plans are to return to a ground attack with either junior Ray Roach or sophomore Mark Ryll at the helm. Paul Ebert and Warren Collins, both backup men last year at halfbacks, and either Tony Leone or John Rosinski, both fullbacks with blocking ability, will play key roles. Up front, tackles Jim Dowling and Bill Gathright return as do guard Bill Daviero and split end Darryl Smith. If the defense is to be effective, replacements must step forward for a graduated secondary and three linebacking vacancies.

The spotlight will fall on the defense this year as Villanova faces the problem of coming up with a new quarterback and an offensive forward wall. Defensively, junior halfback Frank Polito returns after a sophomore campaign which saw him lead the nation in interceptions with 12 and set a NCAA return yardage mark with 261. Linebacker Kevin Reilly and end Tony Prazenica also return after serving as starters last year. Junior Tom Karczewski appears to have a slight edge over Mike Sunday and promising sophomore Bill Hatty in the race for the quarterbacking job. The schedule is getting tougher for the Wildcats but a recent increase in scholarships has provided coach Lou Ferry with some much needed depth.

Coach Carl DePasqua spent the spring installing the Wishbone T at Pittsburgh and came away with high praise for junior quarterback Bob Medwid. The Panthers will go with the bullish style running of fullbacks Paul Felinczak and Dave Janasek and returning halfback veterans John Chatman and Stan Ostrowski. In the line, tackles Ernie Webster and Dave Blandino are back along with guard Rick Lozier and an impressive sophomore named Reynold Stoner. Tight end Les Block caught 15 passes for five touchdowns as a backup man last fall and should be a key weapon in '72. The defense yielded 388 points last year and the line must be totally rebuilt. Hope comes in the form of an all-veteran secondary which should be improved.

At Army, coach Tom Cahill can look to the largest collection of experienced hands he's seen since his arrival at West Point. Fourteen starters return from a Cadet squad which won four of its last five games to finish 6-4 in '71. Junior signal caller Kingsley Fink emerged from spring practice with the edge over senior veteran Dick Atha but either is a capable quarterback. The passing game should be stronger with Ed Francis, who caught 23 last year, moving from flanker to split end and 5-9 swiftly Mike Gaines stepping into Francis' old spot. There is still a lack of backfield speed, leaving returnees Bruce Simpson and Bob Hines to grind out the yardage. The defensive unit will be led by standout end Steve Bogosian, proven linebacker Gary Topping and halfback Matt Wo-

Quarterback John Hufnagel (16) keeps Penn State out front

tell who blocked no less than three punts last season. Another plus factor is the return of kicking specialist Jim Barclay who joined the team as a tryout last year and became its leading scorer with 41 points. There is still a woeful lack of depth, however, and a schedule which has the Cadets going up against defending

national champion Nebraska in the opener will make a fast getaway tough.

Navy, which has won only eight games in the last four years, returns some quality players capable of guiding the Midshipmen in a more positive direction this year. Al Glenny, who directed the team through the first four games before suffering a shoulder separation, and Fred Stuvek, who finished the campaign, both return at quarterback. The running game, featuring returnees Andy Pease and Bert Calland, could be stronger and the air attack, spotlighting the pass catching of split end Larry Van Loan, could be the best Navy has had in years. Van Loan, called by coach Rick Forzano "the best athlete Navy has had since Roger Staubach", caught 41 passes for 589 yards and three touchdowns as a sophomore last year. Other targets include tight end Steve Ogden and flanker Bert Calland. Spearheading the defense will be linebacker Chuck Voith, tackle Glen Nardi and deep back Charlie Robinson who picked off five passes last year as a sophomore. Most promising among the newcomers is linebacker George Markulis.

Colgate, eleventh nationally in total offense last year, could again produce fireworks but graduation cut deeply into the defensive ranks. Eight starters, including quarterback Tom Parr (1,387 yards total offense as a soph) and Mark van Eeghen, the leading sophomore rusher (846 yards on 160 carries) in Red Raider history, are available. Much of the passing game will center around a Parr-to-Steve Saxon attack. Tackle Dave Palmer and guard Ray Helbling return on the defense but a number of inexperienced newcomers will have to perform well in crucial spots if the unit is to be solid.

Powerful Delaware, the defending national college division champion, returns loaded with 32 lettermen (including nine defensive and four offensive starters) off a team which went 10-1 and bombarded C.W. Post 72-22 in the Boardwalk Bowl. The defense, which allowed opponents an average of only 57.9 yards rushing a year ago, isn't likely to suffer much of a drop-off with three of the four regular linemen, three linebackers and three-fourths of the secondary returning. Top men in the trenches will be 6-5, 265-pound tackle Dennis Johnson and 6-3, 235-pound end Joe Carbone, both good bets for post-season honors. Back in the Wing T offensive which paced the nation's small colleges in rushing and total offense and averaged 42.2 points per game is regular halfback Glenn Covin who accounted for over 900 yards aground last year and back-up quarterback Scotty Reihm, a slick option performer who also throws well. Good reserves are waiting to fill most of the vacancies but there is some concern about what might happen should Reihm suffer injury since there is no experience behind him at the man-under spot.

Bucknell, with coach Fred Prender entering his fourth campaign, continues to progress steadily toward the positive side of the .500 mark but must solve quarterback problems to maintain that momentum. The running attack, with Mitch Farbstein and Rick Diez back, should again prove strong and the defense will be a veteran-manned unit.

The upward trend at Temple should also continue as coach Wayne Hardin welcomes back such key returnees as quarterback Doug Shobert who had a 62.8 completion average last year, hitting on 120 of 191 for 1,513 yards and 10 touchdowns. Leading rusher Paul Loughran (who also led the nation in kickoff returns) and receiver Clint Graves (28 catches for 428 yards) join superlative offensive guard Skip Singletary to form the foundation of another productive Owl offense. Then, there's kicker Nick Mike-Mayer who connected on 12 of 17 field goals last year and was the nation's second ranked kick scorer.

Junior quarterback Kim McQuilken, who threw for 2,013 yards as a sophomore, returns to direct a Lehigh attack which could prove to be as strong as last year when coach Fred Dunlap's squad went 8-3, best in 10 years. The departure of veteran running backs may see the emphasis switch even more to the passing game with wingback Bill

Washington's Sonny Sixkiller aims high

Howard (23 receptions last year) and split ends Norman Leidke and sophomore Bob Handschue the primary targets. Ten starters return defensively, led by tackles Tom Benfield and Bruce Pohlot and safety Mark Mitravich. Linebacker Ed Probst looks like the best of a talented sophomore crop which will provide more depth than Lehigh has known in some time.

Holy Cross is moving out of the doldrums and it hasn't gone unnoticed. Ed Doherty, in fact, was named New England Coach of the Year in '71 despite the fact his team finished only 4-6. The return of eight offensive starters, led by fullback Joe Wilson who rushed for 973 yards and nine touchdowns (five over 40 yards) last year, lends to the optimistic feeling around Worcester. Center Mike Lehman anchors the offensive line and Jack Von Ohlen, a split end, has led the team in receiving for the past two years. The big question is who will take charge of the quarterbacking duties. Five different players started at that spot at one time or another last year and all return. Heading a potentially good defensive unit is tackle Jim Griffin who Doherty says can play with the best.

Rutgers coach John Bateman welcomes the return of what he calls more good football players than he's had since 1969, including last year's late-blooming quarterback Leo Gasienica and tailback Jim Jennings. The forward wall is also intact. The defensive line is made up of experienced veterans but linebacking and secondary work will fall to a group of untested newcomers. The first five games are on the road, however, and, as usual, depth looms as a major problem.

Lack of overall depth is also the problem of Lafayette's second year coach Neil Putnam. The offense, where eight starters return, will be directed by junior quarterback Tim Grip who took over at mid-season last year. His passing ability and the running of Doug Elgin and Tony Giglio should provide the Leopards with a more balanced attack this fall. Key concern on the defense is finding replacements for a graduation depleted secondary.

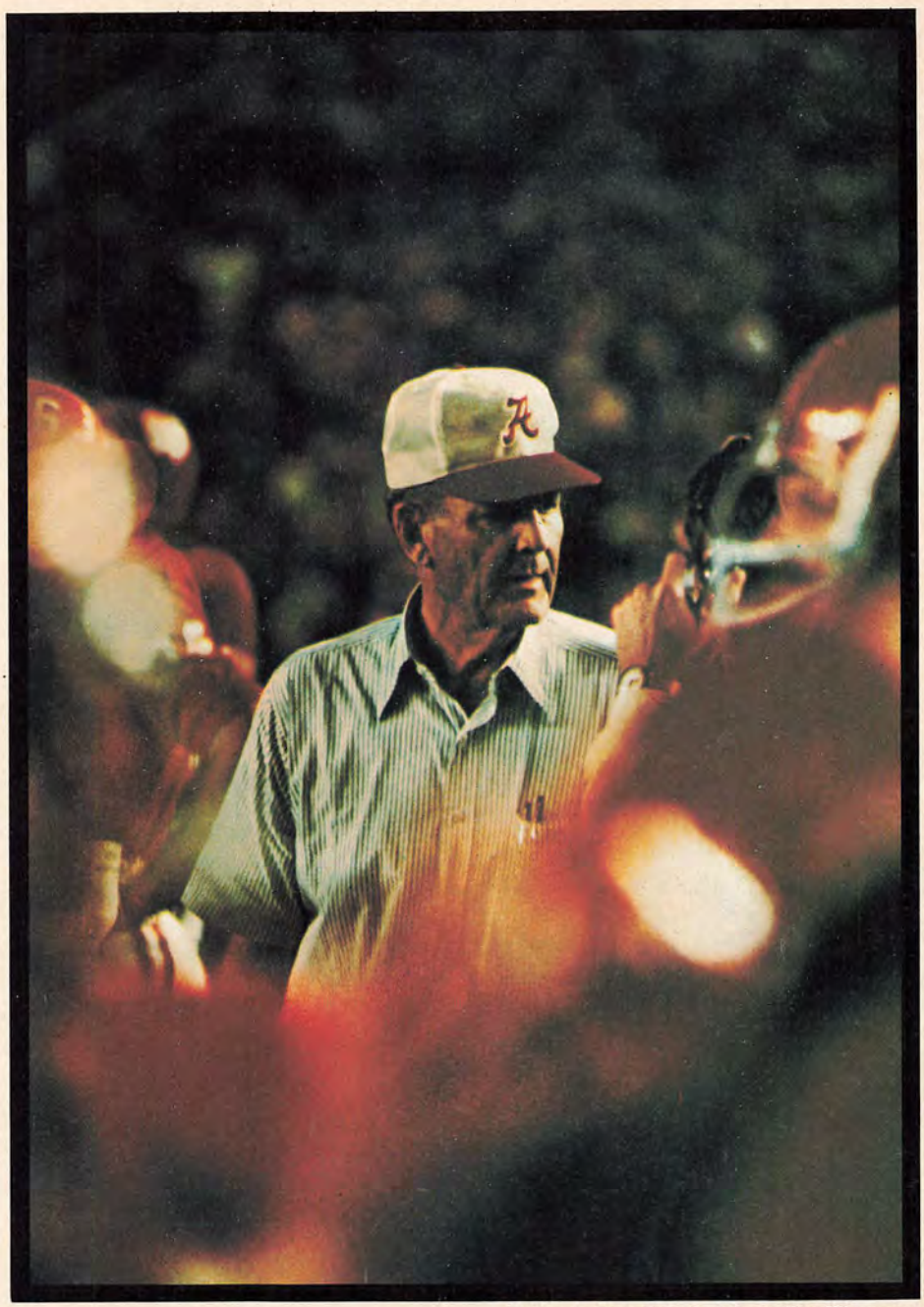
Five Into One SEC Throne Won't Go

Everywhere you look in the Southeastern Conference there seems to be a team capable of finishing at the top of the heap. No less than five teams rank as legitimate threats not only to reign as league champion but to demand national attention.

Ole Miss, the surprise team of last season, finishing off their 10-2 year with a Peach Bowl triumph, will be a senior and junior ball club this fall. Returning healthy is roll-out quarterback Kenny Lyons who watched from the sidelines during much of the second half of the '71 campaign. Joining him in the Rebel backfield will be tailback Greg Ainsworth and fullback Gene Allen with newcomer Larry Cramer anxious to land a regular spot somewhere. Targets for Lyons' passes will be returning split end

Bill Berry and tight end Butch Veazey while folks like tackle Don Leathers, guard Dave Parham and center Chuck Wood lend solidity to the interior line. The search is on for linebackers but beyond that the defense is solid with linemen Jim Horne and Reggie Dill heading the cast. The secondary of Stan Moley, Mickey Fratesi, Jimmy Causey and perhaps sophomore Reed Wakefield leaves little to be desired.

Sun Bowl champion LSU has a 1-2 quarterbacking punch unmatched by anyone in the nation. There's Bert Jones to do the drop-back passing and Paul Lyons to handle the roll-out stuff and running backs like Chris Danton and Jim Benglis to pick up their share of the yardage. Tackle Russell Held and guard



Alabama's Bear Bryant plots another title course

Jimmy Elkins spearhead the forward wall. The only thing needed for the Bengals offense to be totally sound is for speedster Jimmy LeDoux and Jerry Keigley to come of age as receivers. Defensively, coach Charlie McClendon is praising tackles Chip Miller and Tom Butaud, end John Wood, linebacker Pepper Rutland, cornerback Norm Hodgins and halfback Dale Cangelosi.

All-America Johnny Musso is gone from Alabama's Wishbone but the Crimson Tide is hardly left with a bare cupboard. Quarterback Terry Davis who can pass (42 of 66 for 452 yards and a 63.3 percentage) and run (448 yards) returns along with running back Ellis Beck (556 yards) and fullback Steve Bisceglia (472 yards) and Paul Spivey, a backfield prospect who saw spot duty as a sophomore. Wilbur Jackson and Joe LaBue will work at wingback in an attack which may find the Tide throwing the ball more this

year. The defense will feature a strong secondary made up of Lanny Norris, Bobby McKinney, Steve Wade, and Wayne Atkinson and there is no worry at defensive ends where John Mitchell and John Croyle return. If Jeff Rouzie recovers from a springtime leg break the linebacking could be strong as well.

Georgia returns running back Jimmy Poulos, outstanding player in the Gator Bowl, and quarterback Andy Johnson to a ground-oriented offense which again promises to be strong if new faces perform well in the line. The backfield will have experi-

ence to burn with the return of fullback Robert Honeycutt and tailback Hal Bissel and, should passing be called for, there's back-up quarterback James Ray and receivers like Lynn Hunnicutt and Rex Putnall. The line will be built around returnees Jim Curington and Mac McWhorter. Two-time All-SEC safety Buzzy Rosenberg will be joined in a veteran secondary by Jerome Jackson and Gene Swinford and Lenny Ellspermann and Rusty Carter are back at defensive ends.

Sophomore Condredge Holloway, a Huntsville, Alabama youngster, reportedly turned down a $100,000 offer from the Montreal Expos, choosing instead, to play quarterback for Tennessee and he'll get that chance this fall. Joining him in the Vols backfield will likely be Haskel Stanback, who earned the starting tailback job last year before an injury sidelined him, fullback Bill Rudder and halfback Steve Chancey. Targets for Holloway's passes will be Stan Trott and Merlyn Hood. Heading the line corps will be center Tom Johnson, younger brother of Cincinnati Bengals center Bob Johnson, and tackle Gaylon Hill. Linebacker Jamie Rotella, end Ken Lambert and back Conrad Graham headline a defense which also includes the topnotch tackle John Wagster and secondary performers Eddie Brown and Tim Townes. Bill Battles' squad, says

veteran observers, will be as good as last year's and maybe even better with the arrival of Holloway.

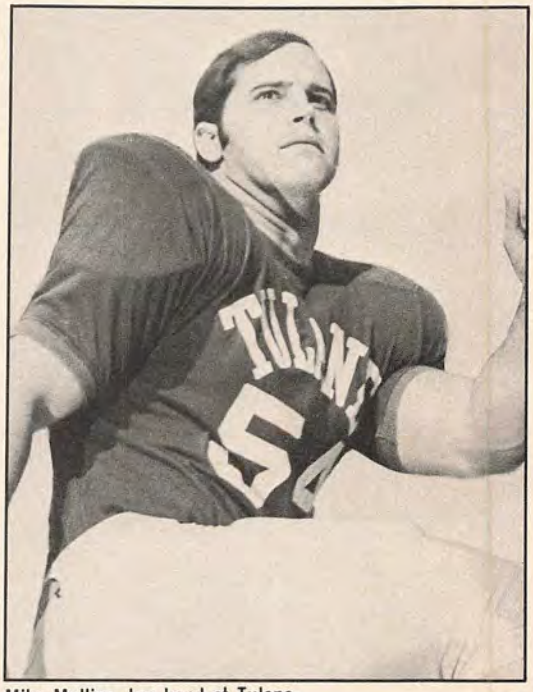
He's not the only new quarterback stirring speculation, however. Auburn, which bade farewell to Pat Sullivan and battery mate Terry Beasley, just may come out of the starting gate with a freshman — yes, a freshman — quarterback. He's an ambidextrous Indiana product named Mike Christian who is said to have all the tools demanded of greatness. Still, there are gaping holes left offensively, lending fuel to the speculation that Auburn may be more of a running team in '72. If the offense can catch up with a defense made up of several familiar faces, Auburn could again be a factor in the race.

Florida faces a big rebuilding job, particularly in the defensive secondary. Much of the hope is riding on the shoulders of roll-out quarterback Chan Gailey, running back Lenny Lucus and receiver Willie Jackson who may also see some action at tailback. Linebacker Ricky Brown is the brightest spot on the defense.

Dinky McKay, who last year led Gulf Coast Junior College to the national juco title, is the man-under this year at Kentucky and could turn the Wildcats' fortunes around. He'll get help from backs Frank Lemaster and Doug Kotar. The defense will build around returning linebackers Ken King and backs Buzz Burnam and Cecil Bowens.

Mississippi State could well move the ball better this year with option quarterbacks James Barkum and Rocky Felker, both of whom had 200 yards rushing in the final spring game, on hand. Louis Grubbs is a threat at halfback but the emergence of a couple of top receivers is necessary if the attack is to be well rounded. Tackle Robert Bell and backs Ken Phares and Emile Petro head the defense.

Vanderbilt's offense could be exciting with quarterback Steve Burger, who's managed over 1,000 yards each of the last two



Mike Mullins, top hand at Tulane

years, and the league's fifth ranked rusher, Jamie O'Rourke, returning. Walter Overton moves from split end to wingback, giving the Commodores a speedy receiving threat out of the backfield. Linebackers Bo Patton and Barry Sutton, end George Abernathy, tackle Mark Ilgenfritz and back Ken Stone form the foundation of a stronger defense.

The presence of three new head coaches provides much fuel for speculation in the Atlantic Coast Conference this fall. Jerry Claiborne has been busy install-

ing the I formation at Maryland, Tom Harper has been elevated from defensive coordinator to head coach at Wake Forest and William & Mary-ex Lou Holtz

Chuck Foreman, big gun at Miami

will bring North Carolina State out throwing this season.

None of which alters the fact that defending champion North Carolina should again reign as the prime choice for the league title. Coach Bill Dooley's chief concern is replacing a graduated backfield but people like Ike Oglesby, a tailback who had leg problems last year, Ted Leverenz, Tim Kirkpatrick and Tom Bradley should see to it that there is no drop-off in the Tar Heels' running attack. The quarterback job is waiting for a No. 1 man to emerge from a group which includes juniors Johnny Klise and Nick Vidnovic and sophomore Chris Kupac. The offensive line, spearheaded by All-ACC guard Ron Rusnak, should be the best in the conference. Defensively, Dooley must replace three departed linebackers if his squad is to be sound.

Running back Steve Jones, who showed signs of brilliance last year despite the fact he missed four games, returns to the Duke backfield along with Bill Thompson, giving the Blue Devils cause for optimism. Mark Johnson, a 6-2, 195-pound sophomore, will assume the quarterbacking chores after a frosh year which saw him hit on 26 of 55 for 444 yards and five touchdowns. All-ACC tackle Ed Newman heads up a veteran line which includes center Dale Grimes, tackle Willie Clayton and guard Tom Torrey. All-league defensive back Ted Hanenberg, end Melvin Parker and tackle Bob Parrish are mainstays in a defense which will be strengthened by the arrival of an outstanding sophomore crew.

Clemson coach Hootie Ingram welcomes back kicking specialist Eddie Seigler, the Tigers' leading scorer for the past two years, hitting on 11 of 16 field goals last year. Moving in at quarterback will be junior Ken Pengitore who'll guide an attack which includes returnees Smiley Sanders and Wade Hughes and a promising sophomore, Jimmy Williamson. Another newcomer who is causing much stir is 225-pound tight end Tom Boozer who will join regulars Buddy King and Force Chamberlain in the forward wall. Defensively, Ben Anderson is back in the secondary while tackle Frank Wirth is the youngster around whom Ingram will build his line.

Masterminding Claiborne's Maryland offense will be Al Neville who ranked second in the league in total yards last year with 1,265, and Bob Avellini, a promising passer who hit on 71 of 129 for 814 yards and seven touchdowns. Protection is promised by a line which returns intact, and a prime target for Terrapin aerials is All-ACC split end Dan Bungori who caught 32 for 490 yards as a sophomore. The new look defensively will be a wide tackle six alignment featuring tackle Paul Bellano, end Chris Cowdrey and linebackers Bill Reilley, Bob Abbott, Bob Tucker and Brina Dominic.

Things are looking up for the Virginia Cavaliers with Harrison Davis, fourth ranked passer in the league, returning to guide an offense which includes ACC sprint champion Kent Merritt who picked up 829 yards last season. Filling out what could be a lethal foursome will be juco transfer Mike Lacika and frosh standout Richard Ambrose. Up front, only one guard must be replaced and the defense promises to be the best Virginia has fielded in some time.

Holtz's free-wheeling style attack will make North Carolina State an interesting team to watch. Bruce Shaw, who took over direction of the Wolfpack at mid-season last year, heads an all-junior backfield which includes the league's No. 3 rusher, Willie Burden (910 yards), fullback Charley Young and wingback Mike Stultz. All the linebackers are returning along with defensive ends Bryan Krueger and Jim Nelson and tackle Roger McSwain.

Harper has some big gaps to fill at Wake Forest with the departure of an All-ACC quarterback and tailback. On defense the veteran linebackers are gone as are three members of the secondary. Three starters, ends Randy Cox and John Hardin and tackle Steve Komondorea return in the defensive line.

Gary Huff, who led the nation in total offense last year with a 241.2 yards per game average, is back to guide the attack at Florida State, providing the Seminoles with a built-in cause for optimism. Coach Larry Jones,

however, feels the lack of depth and graduation of a number of key players will make it hard for FSU to encore after last year's 8-3 record and strong Fiesta Bowl showing. In addition to Huff, the Seminoles can count on quality performances from veterans like receiver Barry Smith, offensive guard Phil Arnold and defensive back James Thomas. One of the brightest areas is at linebacker where Larry Strickland and Dan Whitehurst are both blue chippers. Redshirts like defensive tackle James Malkiewicz and running backs Hodges Mitchell and Mack Brown could figure into the picture as could incoming sophomore receivers Mike Allen and Joe Goldsmith, defensive back Ralph Petrillo and Fred Geisler, who'll serve as Huff's understudy.

South Carolina went into spring training hoping to solve three problems: inconsistency at quarterback, replacing injured running backs and rebuilding the secondary. Reports are that the missions were accomplished. Redshirt Bill Troup, a 6-5, 210-pound transfer from Virginia, looks like money in the bank at the man-under spot, sophomores Jay Lynn Hodgin and Bill Cregar and juco transfer Ron Parson showed well at running backs and there is talent on hand in the secondary. There are excellent wide receivers on hand in split end Jackie Brown, flanker Mike Haggard and tight end Marty Woolbright and if youngsters come through in the interior line the offense could be potent. The defense is headed by super tackles John LeHeup and Darrell Austin with ends Bob Roe, Monty Matthews and back-up Jim Beard all capable performers. Linebackers Rick Brown and Phil Wallace and middle guard Dana Carpenter add to the plus factors.

New Georgia Tech coach Bill Fulcher inherits enough blue ribbon performers to find him looking eagerly toward the '72 campaign. Back from a 6-6 Peach Bowl team are key performers like quarterback Eddie McAshan (125 completions for 1,186 yards and seven TDs), tailback Greg Horne, fullback Rob Healy and tight end Mike Oven, a top rated blocker who also catches the ball well. Lending experience to the defensive unit will be linebackers Joe Harris, Gary Carden and Steve Putnal, tackle Tom Beck and ends Bobby Daffer and Brad Bourne (who made 99 tackles while playing tackle last fall).

Tulane coach Bennie Ellender is faced with a critical task of rebuilding his entire secondary but feels that, injuries aside, the Green Wave should be able to beef up its 3-8 record of a year ago. Quarterback Mike Walker heads a list of five returning offensive starters which include tailback Ricky Hebert, tackle Jeff Hollingsworth and guard Mike Koesling. Mike Mullen, the team's leading tackler last year from his linebacker spot, and end Mike Truax, one of the most highly regarded sophomores in the country, will set the pace for the defense. A superlative group of sophomores, some who will make strong bids for starting berths, add to the optimism.

Miami coach Fran Curci flatly states that his ace running back, Chuck Foreman, is "the greatest in the United States" and that fact alone could start UM on an upward climb this fall. After breaking all the school's rushing marks behind a small, inexperienced line last year, Foreman is due blocking help in '72. Joining him in the backfield will be a pair of promising fullbacks, Woody Thompson and Tom Smith, but the very large question of who will be the No. 1 quarterback may not be resolved until just before the opening kickoff. Blue ribbon linebacker Harold Sears, AP Lineman of the Week for his 21 unassisted tackles against Notre Dame last year, heads the defense.

Southern Mississippi, which turned its season around at midyear to finish 6-5 in '71, places much of its hopes on the shoulders of junior running back Doyle Orange who set a school record of 12 rushing touchdowns last fall. Late-blooming starter Buddy Palazzo returns at quarterback but is getting a stiff push from veteran Ray Guy who has moved from the secondary to offense. Guy, a high ranking punter the past two years, is the best all-round athlete on the squad, having averaged 42.9 per punt last year, intercepted five passes and handled placement chores. The receiving corps is strong with the return of Doug Parker, Harvey McGee and Johnny Dragg. Defensively, much praise is being directed toward redshirt tackle Lee Coleman and ends Fred Cook and Tom Henderson.

Earle Bruce inherits the head coaching chair at Tampa and welcomes back eight offensive and seven defensive regulars off last year's 6-5 squad. Two-year veteran Buddy Carter will again pilot the Spartans' offense while fleet runners like Freddie Solomon, Alan Pittman and Ken Moorhead spearhead the ground

How they'll finish

SEC

Mississippi, LSU, Alabama, Georgia, Tennessee, Auburn, Florida, Kentucky, Mississippi State, Vanderbilt.

ACC

North Carolina, Duke, Clemson, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina State, Wake Forest.

Southern

Richmond, Citadel, William & Mary, East Carolina, VMI, Davidson, Furman, Appalachian.

Independents

Winners: Florida State, South Carolina, Georgia Tech, Miami, Southern Mississippi.

Losers: Tulane, Tampa, Virginia Tech.

Jimmy Poulos puts bite in Georgia Bulldogs

attack. Tight end Alex Edlin (30 receptions for 518 yards) heads a class array of receivers. Tackle John Matuszak (6-7, 275) leads a defense which should be stronger if linebacking problems can be solved.

Don Strock, the nation's No. 2 passer last season (195 of 356 for 2,577 yards and 12 TDs), is back to guide Virginia Tech's multiple offense and will again be throwing to such veteran targets as tight end Mike Burnop and wide receiver Donnie Reel. Running back James Barber is also battle tested. Linebacking, with Kent Henry, Dennis Dodson and Tommy Carpenito back, and the secondary where Bobby Dabbs and Jerry Scharnus return could be strong but there is still a search for replacements in the forward wall.

Defending champion Richmond is the heavy favorite to retain its Southern Conference title as six offensive and seven defensive regulars return. A strong one-two offensive punch will be present again in the form of super fullback Barty Smith and running back Billy Meyers. Phil Burkhalter, a back-up man last fall, appears to have the inside track at quarterback. All-Southern linebacker Pat Kelley and middle guard Keith Dooley return to a defense which led the league last season. They'll get strong support from tackles Vick Moye and Terry Hogan and ends John Nugent, an all-league pick, and Lee Pearson.

The Citadel, which featured an eye-catching passing attack last year, has moved all-league defensive back Jeff Varnadoe to split end, hoping to shore up a totally depleted receiving corps. Conference total offense leader Harry Lynch (1,507 passing, 585 rushing) returns at quarterback with Jon Hall (1,200 rushing) and Bob Carson returning in the backfield. The line will be led by center Keith Roden. Defensively, the spotlight is on ends Neal Rumble and Allan Melton, linebacker Jeff Martin and tackle Norman Seabrooks.

New coach Jim Root has installed the I formation at William & Mary and will utilize the pass catching talents of flanker David Knight (48 receptions for 845 yards last year) to the fullest. Doing the throwing will be last year's back-up quarterback John Gargano with much of the running work being handled by Todd Bushnell who had a superlative sophomore year then missed last season with a broken collarbone. Two-time all-league safety Paul Scolaro leads a potentially strong defense.

Rebuilding East Carolina lost 14 starters by graduation but does return such talent as running backs Carlster Crumpler and Les Strayhorn and part-time starter at quarterback, Carl Summerell. Only center Jimmy Creech returns in the offensive line and there is concern over the defensive secondary where Rusty Markland is the only veteran back. Robin Hogue returns at defensive end after a strong

sophomore showing and coach Sonny Randle is anticipating help from juco transfers this fall.

Coach Bob Thalman will field a sophomore-laden squad at Virginia Military Institute with a sprinkling of veterans who just might help improve last year's 1-10 record. Back is running back Mac Bowman (795 yards) and sophomore Tom Schultze looks like the No. 1 man in the quarterback race. Linebacking could be the strongest area with the team's leading tackler last year, Mark Weiss, joining George Brooks and Bruce Chambers as established veterans. Bob Ball is back in the trenches and John Landry returns in the secondary.

Scotty Shipp returns to quarterback Davidson's wide open attack and will be zeroing in on targets like split end Andy Davis, tight end Mike Harding and flanker John Walker. Talented tackle Bill Garrett heads what could be a strong defense and will get help from people like end Jimmy Hardison, linebacker Woody Montgomery and secondary performers Steve Fleming and Dave Kittrell. There are still numerous spots up for grabs in the offensive and defensive line.

Furman coach Bob King is still waiting for Mike Shelton, a good passer, or John Rolfrom, a good runner, to take command of the quarterback job. That, plus the fact that experience is hard to find among running backs, makes the offensive picture cloudy. In the line, tight end John Monferdini and tackle Dan Utley return. The defense could be stronger with the return of the entire secondary, a trio of solid linebackers and all-league end David Shi.

Appalachian became the league's newest member last May and is the lone conference school boasting an artificial turf.

The Illini Will Rise At Last... Unless Woody's Wounded Are Sound

Bob Blackman's multiple offense system went into effect at mid-season last year, enabling Illinois to close the year with five straight victories. When you consider that all but two regulars are back and that one of those vacated spots will be filled by a speedster named Bob Hayes, there is good reason to believe that the Illini may well be the team to beat for the Big Ten championship.

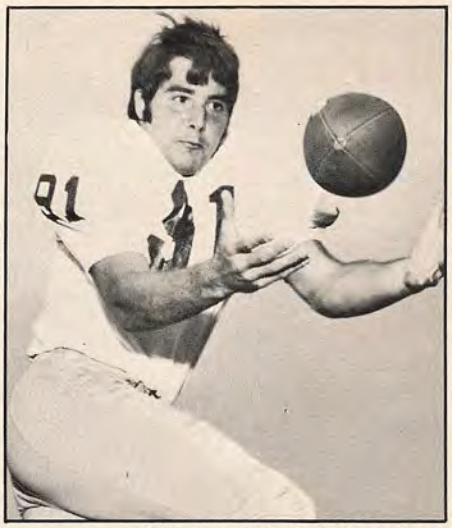
The only open spot on offense is right halfback where last year's leading rusher John Wilson lost a battle with the books. In his place will likely be junior college transfer Hayes, a 9.6 century man with moves and great hands or possibly Ed Jenkins who sat out spring drills with knee problems. Third year regular Mike Wells returns at quarterback while familiar Mike Navarro will be at fullback and George Uremovich at the other halfback. The line will be anchored by center Larry McCarren, a good bet for post season honors, while much of the passing game will be directed toward split end Garvin Roberson who led the team in receiving last year with 28 catches for 372 yards. The defense is Blackman's pride and joy, however, with such talent as end Tab Bennett, tackle David Wright and cornerbacks Willie Osley and John Graham heading a superlative cast. As if front line strength weren't enough, the sophomore crop includes such gifted players as linebacker Tom Hicks, a 6-3, 235-pounder who is being touted as another Dick Butkus, and Bill Kleckner who intercepted eight passes in just three frosh games a year ago. The schedule, called by Blackman one of the toughest in the nation, provides a king-sized challenge.

With one of its most devastating sieges of injuries now history, Ohio State braces for the upcoming season with no less than 16 athletes who are coming off some type surgery. If they are mended — and Woody Hayes is keeping his fingers crossed — the Buckeyes could challenge not only for the Big Ten title but national honors as well. Seven offensive and seven defensive starters return from last year's 6-4 club. If Greg Hare, who saw limited action last season, is able to take full command at quarterback, the OSU offense could be potent with the return of halfbacks Rick Galbos and Morris Bradshaw and fullback John Bledsoe. In the line, Hayes welcomes the return of tight end Rick Middleton, tackle Merv Teague and guards Jim Kregel and Chuck Bonica. Defensively, there is a strong nucleus with tackles George Hasenohrl and Shad Williams, end Tom Mar-

endt, linebackers Vic Koegel and Randy Gradishar and deep backs Jeff Davis and Rick Seifert on hand.

A hot-and-cold running team last year, Purdue returns 15 regulars, including its entire backfield. Coach Bob DeMoss, who teaches a think bold, play bold philosophy, can depend on such people as Gary Danielson, Otis

Purdue passing whiz Gary Danielson


Mike Creaney leads Irish receivers

Armstrong, Greg Bingham and Dave Butz to do just that. Danielson, the league's passing leader a year ago (1,467 yards), returns at the helm, directing an attack which includes super tailback Armstrong and wide receivers Darryl Stingley and Rick Sayers who combined for 76 receptions for 1,307 yards last season. Then there is junior Larry Burton, a wide receiver candidate who tied the world indoor 60-yard dash mark of 5.9 last March. Center Bob Hoidahl anchors the offensive line with much attention being focused at tight end where DeMoss is looking at Gary Hrivnak, an All-Big Ten defensive end last year. Even should he switch to offense, there are eight battle tested performers returning on defense including all-conference middle guard Bingham, super tackle Butz and backs Arnold Carter, Chuck Piebes and Carl Capria.

Defending champ Michigan dealt more attention to the passing game in spring drills, hinting that perhaps coach Bo Schembechler may supplement the running of punishing Ed Shuttlesworth (875 yards last year) with not only dropback but some spread formation passing as well. Seven starters are back offensively, including such talent as tackles Jim Coode and Curtis Tucker, guard Tom Coyle, tight end Paul Seymour and split end Bo Rather. Rather lends speed to the attack, having averaged 16.5 yards per reception last year and performing brilliantly as a kick returner. The quarterbacks, Kevin Casey and Tom Slade, also are back. Defensive losses are cause for concern but there is something to build from. Returning are line regulars Fred Grambau, Greg Ellis and Dave Gallagher, linebacker Tom Kee and cornerback Randy Logan. The secondary will be spearheaded by Dave Elliott and Tom Drake, players who didn't start last year but did gain valuable experience.

"Last year," says Michigan State coach Duffy Daugherty, "we closed the gap between ourselves and the league's leaders. I was optimistic going into last season and I think the tie for third bore me out. This time I think there is even more cause to be optimistic." Only seven of the 22 starters from last fall are gone from a team which boasted a solid defense and a new found offensive punch after switching to the Wishbone. Add to that the fine group of incoming sophomores and there is credence in Duffy's observations. Much of the spring was spent in search of a number one quarterback with veterans George Mihaiu and Mark Neisen coming to the fore. The backfield, in fact, will sport several new faces but there is ability enough to offset some of the inexperience. The line will be headed by All-Big Ten guard Joe DeLamielleure and veteran tight end Billy Joe DuPree, an outstanding blocker and top notch receiver (46 receptions for 816 yards and six TDs in the past two years). All-America safety Brad Van Pelt and destructive linebacker Gail Clark are key names on what could be an even better defense this fall.

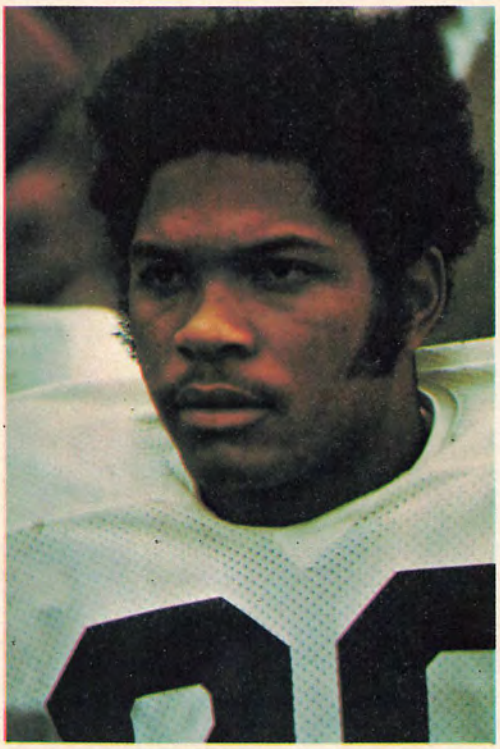
Tailback Rufus Ferguson, who amassed 1,222 yards on 249 carries last year to wipe Alan Ameche off the Wisconsin record books, returns to assure coach John Jardine's crew of scoring power in '72. The All-Big Ten fireplug (5-6, 190) scored 80 points last season and will again be the focal point of the WU attack. There should be adequate blocking up front with the return of guard Bob Braun, tackle Keith Nosbusch, center Mike Webster and tight end Tom Lonnborg. Letterman Rudy Steiner should step into the quarterbacking spot with Gary Lund a top fullback candidate. Seven starters return on defense with linebackers Todd Nordwig and Dave Lokanc heading the list. The secondary, where only Ron Buss returns, is a question mark.

A major overhaul is due at Northwestern where coach Alex Agase mourns the departure of 15 starters *(Continued on page 50)*

These All-Americas Can't Be Beat

Joe Ferguson, Arkansas quarterback

Johnny Rodgers,
Nebraska
wide receiver



Charlie Davis, Colorado running back

Nick Bebout,
Wyoming lineman

Charles Young,
USC tight end

... BEFORE THE KICKOFF

Robert Popelka, SMU defensive back

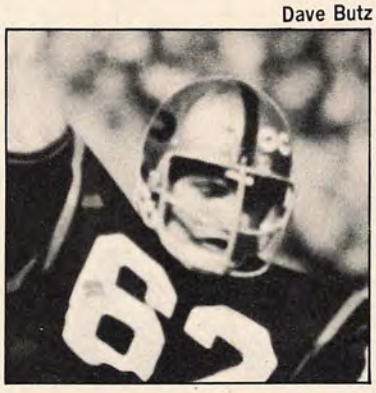
Purdue's Dick Butz rises above the opposition

... And Maybe Later ...

Frank Polito, Villanova defensive back

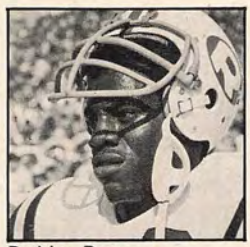
FERGUSON, YOUNG, POLITO, CLAYTON & BROS. ARE ALL LINEAL DESCENDANTS OF FRANK MERRIWELL

Bruce Bannon


Dave Butz

Rich Glover

Harold Sears


Rodrigo Barnes

Robert Popelka

Those whose job it is to sell the public on the notion that the particular football player now residing on their campus is, in fact, the very best since Frank Merriwell rode to fictional fame, call it the Pre-Season Push. A time when you beat the drums loudly, produce press releases like hula hoops, and do your teary-eyed best to convince the country's sporting press that, boys, I've got a real live one here.

It helps if he's an Eagle Scout, altar boy, straight A student, runs the forty in clock-busting times and has a first name that hints strongly of a Hollywood background. Throw in a couple of hundred pounds of blue steel muscle, lateral movement you wouldn't believe and a few stories about how, last year, he single-handedly beat Notre Dame and then dashed off to work at the neighborhood gas station to make some money to send to Mom and the kids back in Pocatello and, presto, you've got what has come to be known in the trade as a Pre-Season All-American.

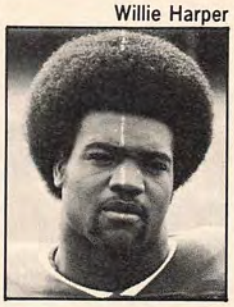
It's football played in mid-summer with open season on Madison Avenue imagery, hard sell and descriptive adjectives that would shame the creator of "Captain Marvel". Put in a call to the sports information director at Siwash U. to tell him you're still undecided about whom to put at quarterback and he'll drop everything and probably miss Junior's birthday party to tell you how his quarterback throws with both hands, kicks with both legs, thinks with both brains and, by the way, is going steady with the Homecoming Queen.

It is reliably reported that Arkansas' Joe Ferguson prefers bass fishing to going steady and, alas, throws only with his right hand, but on the basis of his strong showing as a junior last fall, the Razorback field general has been selected to become the No. 1 quarterback in a year when names like Sixkiller, Hufnagel, Anderson, Huff and Fouts are surely to become household words.

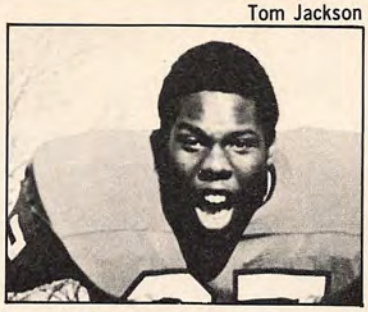
Called a "perfectionist" by his coach, Frank Broyles, "the most accurate passer seen in this part of the country in a long, long time" by rival coach Darrell Royal, and compared to Joe Willie Himself by Texas Tech

Greg Marx

Willie Harper



Tom Jackson



Brad VanPelt

Frank Polito

coach Jim Carlen, the 6-2, 175-pounder hit on 59 per cent of his passes for 2,203 yards and 11 touchdowns last fall.

Joining Ferguson in the backfield is a trio of high-geared running backs who might fit nicely onto someone's sprint relay team. In an era of ground-gulping, high-scoring offensive attacks, Oklahoma's Greg Pruitt, Colorado's Charlie Davis and Arizona State's Woodrow Green are proper signs of the times.

Pruitt, a consensus selection a year ago, came into his own last fall when Oklahoma coach Chuck Fairbanks settled his Sooners into a Veer-T attack and ended the year with 1,665 yards rushing and back-to-back citations as the National Back of the Week. The 5-9, 176-pound Texas native established four school records last year, including a 294-yard afternoon against Kansas State and a season rushing average of 9.4 yards per carry.

When Pruitt wasn't being named Back of the Week last year it seemed that Colorado's Charlie Davis was. Top sophomore running back in the nation last year, the 6-0, 200-pound Buffalo tailback was dealt the honor for his performances against LSU and Oklahoma State (when he romped for an amazing 342 yards on 34 carries) and ended the year with 1,386 yards rushing. The Big Eight tapped him as its Sophomore of the Year and his 202-yard night in the Astro-Bluebonnet Bowl earned him that game's Most Valuable Player award.

While Davis was being hailed as the cream of the Big Eight sophomore crop, the Western Athletic Conference was pointing to a blue ribbon candidate of its own: flashy Woodie Green, a 6-1, 190-pounder who rushed for 1,209 yards to key an exciting Arizona State offensive which averaged 38 points per game and closed out the season with a crowd-pleasing 45-38 Fiesta Bowl victory over Florida State.

It is not only in the backfield that the pre-season team boasts blistering speed and the kind of moves made famous by Sally Rand. At the wide receiver spot is Nebraska's multi-talented Johnny Rodgers, a 5-10, 171-pounder who led the Big Eight with 53 receptions for 821 yards

Greg Marx makes the stop

Longshot

As a high school quarterback Dave Juenger led his team to 32 straight victories before signing a letter-of-intent with Ohio University. By the time he advanced to the varsity there was a wealth of experience at the man-under position so he was moved to wide receiver and as a sophomore ranked 16th in the nation in receptions.

Then as a junior he was moved back to quarterback where, on one particularly memorable afternoon against Virginia Tech, he hit on 16 of 32 passes for 190 yards and a touchdown. He rushed for 67 yards and two more scores. He repeatedly punted his team out of desperate situations. He threw for a two-point conversion. And still Ohio University trailed.

Seeing that more drastic measures were needed, coach Bill Hess sent his No. 2 quarterback into the game and moved the 6-1, 195-pound Juenger out to a receiver spot. He caught three passes for 63 yards, the last one going for a touchdown. Despite his heroics, however, his team was just one of the hundreds who happened to be on the losing end of a college football game.

Now, as his senior campaign gets underway, Juenger is at tight end, a position Hess feels is most natural for him. "Dave is an outstanding blocker, he can catch the ball, and he can run with it. A reporter was asking me the other day about our depth and I told him it was no problem. Juenger is my depth."

Dave Juenger, and numerous talented athletes like him, are of All-America quality. But for a variety of reasons — size of the school whose colors they fly, the overall caliber of the competition, injuries that forced them out of the spotlight last season and position changes that find them checking out a new jersey number each fall — they are, like Juenger, at best Long Shot All-Americans.

On occasion, however, a longshot does come in.

Rich Glover moving in

and a record 11 touchdown catches. Including punt returns, kickoff returns, receptions and 36 rushes from his slot back position, the Omaha speedster touched the ball 132 times last year and gained 1,932 yards.

Southern Cal coach John McKay, seldom given to rash statements, flatly points out that Charles Young "could well be the greatest tight end ever to play ball at USC." A 6-4, 213-pound senior, Young is a top-rated blocker and was the second leading scorer for the Trojans last year with six touchdowns. He averaged 12.9 yards on 23 receptions as a junior.

While the backfield is manned by slightly built runners whose tools are speed, agility and quickness rather than brute power, the poundage in the interior line would make it capable of blasting the type holes needed to keep a drive moving.

They say even Paul (Bear) Bryant wasn't worried over the fact that John Hannah excused himself from the formalities of spring training to handle weight duties on the Crimson Tide track team. The 6-3½, 277-pound Alabama senior spent all year opening gaping holes for All-America running back Johnny Musso in '71 and will receive a little more of the spotlight himself this year.

Down in Austin, making All-America is getting to be old hat to University of Texas' Jerry Sisemore, and therefore close followers of the Southwest Conference have reached a little deeper and come up with the observation that the 6-4, 240-

All-America

QUARTERBACK — Virginia Tech's *Don Strock*, a 6-5, 205-pound senior who threw for 2,577 yards last year to rank second in the nation, comes along in a year when super-talented and super-publicized quarterbacks abound. "Strock," says coach Charlie Coffey, "probably faced more different defenses than any other quarterback in the nation last year and still moved the team well."

RUNNING BACK — Southern Cal's *Sam Cunningham* who was sidelined for the last two games of the '71 season with a bad knee. The 6-3, 212-pound Calvin Hill-type back is capable of playing fullback or tailback and could rank with the best if there are no complications from the knee surgery. In a year rich with scatback types, he could well be the premier "big back" in the college ranks.

WIDE RECEIVER — Navy split end *Larry Van Loan*, a youngster called by coach Rick Forzano the best athlete the Academy has had since Roger Staubach. Well on the way to breaking every Navy receiving mark on the books, he caught 41 for 589 yards and three touchdowns last year.

DEFENSIVE LINE — If *Joe Ehrmann*, the 6-5, 261-pound Syracuse tackle can ever stay healthy for the duration of the season he would be ranked among the very best. Pre-season All-America selectors have been picking him for the past two years but injuries have prevented his proving them right thus far.

LINEBACKER — Last year Colorado's *Bud Magrum* was a third team All-America selection at guard and this year will work at linebacker. The 6-3, 225-pounder is a Marine veteran who won two Purple Hearts in Viet Nam. The position change isn't likely to reduce the quality of his play.

Greatness Goes Undiscovered Every Year

pounder is "the best offensive lineman in the Royal Era of Texas football." It's the kind of recommendation that's liable to get him a pretty high starting salary with some professional team.

In the WAC, they are saying that Wyoming's 6-5, 237-pound Nick Bebout is to the offensive line what Green is to the backfield. An all-league performer last year, he's another who's popular with the pro scouts. The same applies to Duke's Willie Clayton, a 6-3, 254-pounder who coach Mike McGee promises is "already a great one but he's going to get even better."

Another consensus selection at the conclusion of the 1971 campaign, Oklahoma center Tom Brahaney (6-2, 231) returns for one more round of honors, exhibiting the same degree of enthusiasm which earned him recognition as the nation's premier center last year. "I like my job," he says. "It's that simple. There is a great amount of satisfaction in making a good block or a good snap."

If there is a better defensive player currently enrolled in college, members in good standing of the Rich Glover Fan Club would like to see him go one-on-one with their candidate. In the spring prior to his junior year, the 6-1, 234-pound New Jersey product was struggling along as a relatively obscure tackle until injuries depleted the ranks at middle guard. Such are the twists of Fate that turn a coach into a genius. From nowhere the powerful youngster moved into the heart of the Husker defense last

COLLEGE TV SCENE

fall and was selected by the Washington (D. C.) Touchdown Club as the Outstanding College Lineman of the '71 season.

Assuming that Glover does, indeed, have a legitimate rival for the role of top defensive lineman, it might well be another late bloomer who logged only 23 minutes of playing time as a sophomore, then grabbed a spot on the All-Big Ten team last year. Purdue's Dave Butz (6-7, 279) is described by Michigan head coach Bo Schembechler as "the best tackle I've seen since I've been at Michigan. Butz is magnificent."

Notre Dame's Ara Parseghian spent much of the spring restocking a graduation-riddled defensive unit but it wasn't hard to find a convenient starting place. Returning to the Irish defensive unit is seasoned veteran Greg Marx (6-5, 235) who appears to be right on schedule to becoming the 31st Notre Dame All-American since Ara's arrival in South Bend.

A pair of post-season bowl stars will operate at the defensive end spots. A consensus selection as a junior, Nebraska's Willie Harper (6-3,210) was outstanding in the Cornhuskers' victory over Alabama in the Orange Bowl and Penn State's big Bruce Bannon forced a pair of Texas fumbles in the Cotton Bowl enroute to being selected the top defensive performer in the game.

Heading the cast of linebackers is Miami's Harold Sears, a 26-year-old Viet Nam veteran who was cited as the

Under the terms of a new two-year contract between ABC-TV and the NCAA, there will be 37 college football telecasts, including 13 national and 24 regional, aired this fall. A new aspect of the schedule, however, finds only the first six dates of the 1972 season filled with the remainder of the games to be selected as late as the Monday preceding each Saturday.

The schedule:

Sept. 9 — Tennessee at Georgia Tech (National).
Sept. 16 — Arizona State at Houston (National).
Sept. 23 — Nebraska at Army; Georgia at Tulane; Stanford at Duke; Bowling Green at Miami (Ohio)(Regional).
Sept. 30 — Illinois at Washington (National).
Oct. 7 — Notre Dame at Michigan State (National).
Oct. 14 — Oklahoma-Texas (Dallas); Arizona at New Mexico; Citadel at East Carolina (Regional).

The College Division bowl games will be televised, regionally, on Saturday, Dec. 9.

national Lineman of the Week last fall after being credited with 21 unassisted tackles against powerful Notre Dame. Quick, agile and aggressive, he ended the season with 117 unassisted tackles.

Tom Jackson was the chief reason that something like 25 professional scouts were seen spending a lot of time at the Louisville spring practices. The 6-0, 220-pounder has all the makings for greatness says coach Lee Corso, who expects him to improve on a '71 performance which saw him credited with 91 tackles, 31 assists and three interceptions.

It was key interceptions as much as his tackling ability that earned Rice's Rodrigo Barnes the Southwest Conference's top defensive player award last year. Against Texas Tech, for instance, he picked off one and rambled a school record 89 yards with it. That kind of speed, supplemented by a 6-2, 212-pound frame, gives Rice the advantage of having a halfback-type playing up close to the action.

In the secondary, Villanova's Frank Polito is small (5-11, 170) by major college standards but his quickness, uncanny reaction and what coach Lou Ferry calls a "sixth sense" enabled him to lead the nation in interceptions (12) and establish an NCAA record with 261 yards in returns as a sophomore last fall.

Michigan State safety Brad Van Pelt has led the Spartans in interceptions for the past two

(Continued on page 38)

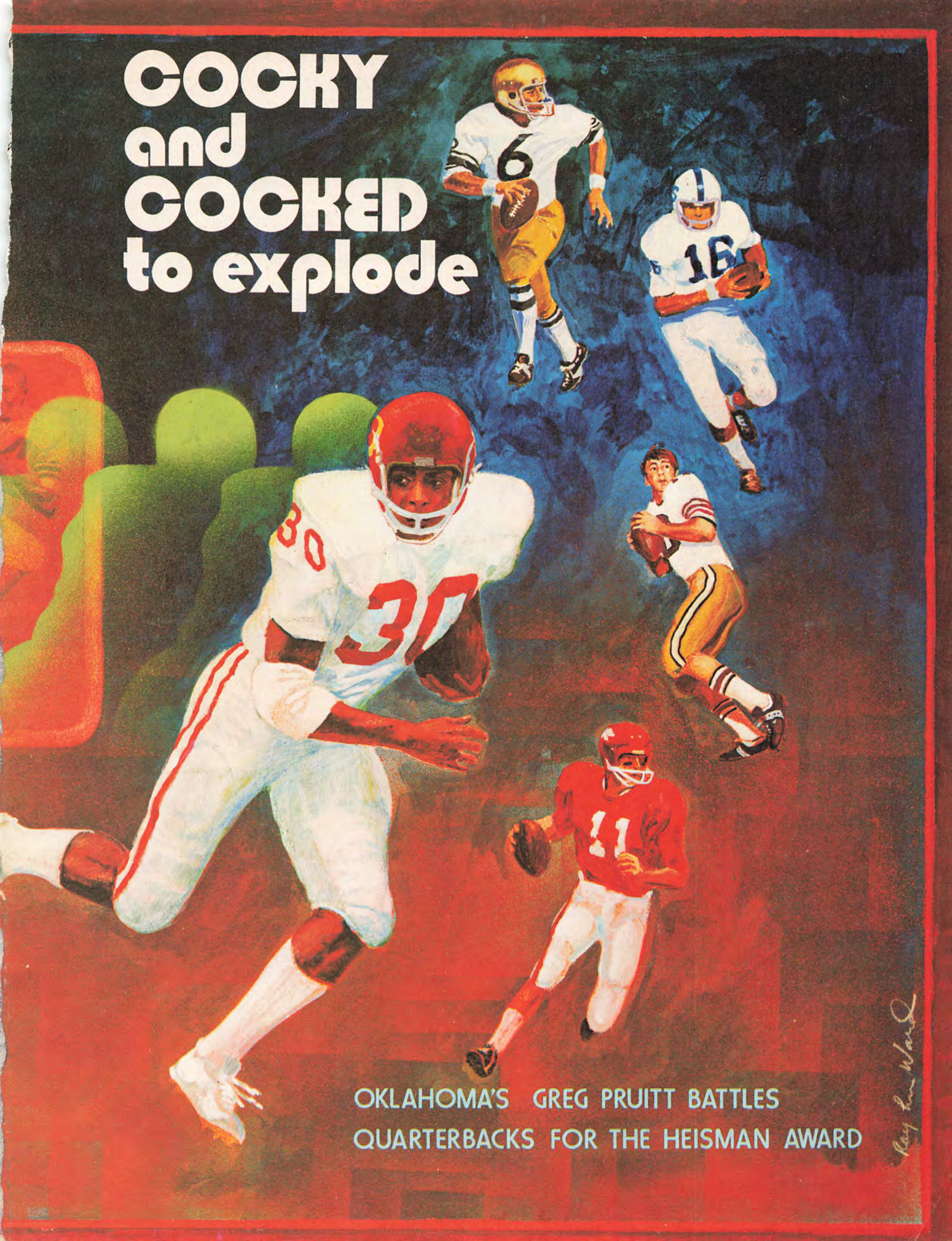
Few assignments in life are more cruel than playing understudy to a STAR. So when Oklahoma's lead against Kansas State last year grew large enough to clear the bench, one can imagine the joy of Everett Marshall, who played second fiddle to Greg Pruitt.

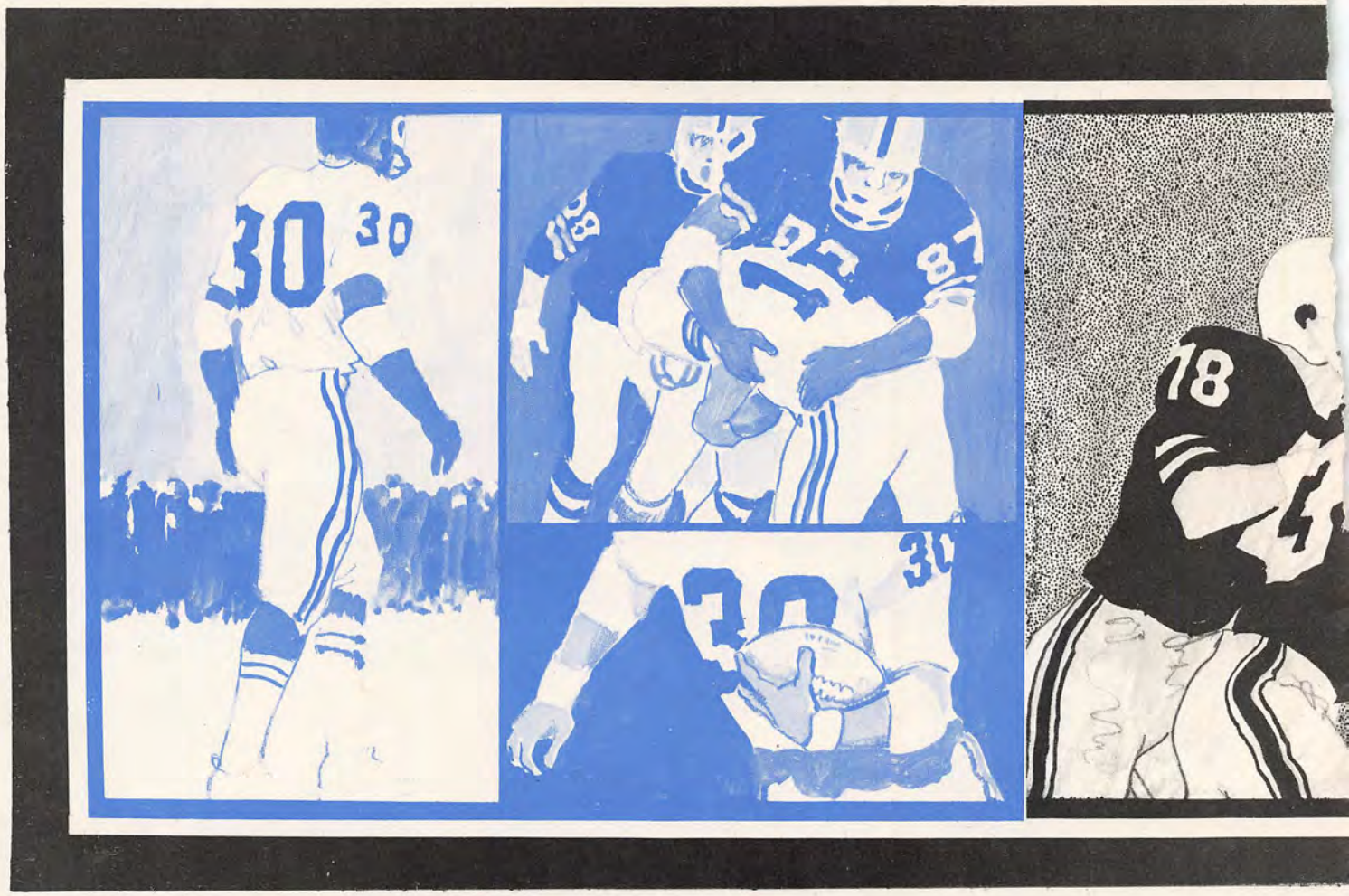
Alas, moments later someone discovered that Pruitt lacked just 33 yards of surpassing the Big 8 record held by an obscure fellow named Gale Sayers.

Unselfishly, in the way of those who realize they have no choice, Marshall cheerfully stepped aside. As they passed each other on the field, Pruitt winked at Marshall and assured him, "don't worry. This won't take long."

It is an article of faith at Oklahoma that Greg Pruitt works fast. The economy-sized senior halfback has soul. He also has breakaway speed and one gold tooth and a sense of his own worth.

On ego alone, Greg Pruitt should win the Heisman Trophy in 1972. His personality is so strong and unfiltered that his teammates occasionally feel the need to defend him to strangers. "They keep telling people I'm not cocky, just confident," says Greg. "But, actually, I'm just cocky."


COCKY
and
COCKED
to explode
OKLAHOMA'S GREG PRUITT BATTLES
QUARTERBACKS FOR THE HEISMAN AWARD



Barring some kind of Oklahoma disaster, such as a dust storm that blows away the goal line, Pruitt will win the Heisman over a field limited, as it almost always is, to quarterbacks and running backs.

The competition is led by Sonny Sixkiller, of Washington, who is blessed with the most favorable name since Joe Theismann, which rhymed with Heisman, after the Notre Dame publicity people got through with it. Sixkiller, Joe Ferguson of Arkansas, Gary Huff of Florida State and John Hufnagel of Penn State are all quarterbacks with heroic arms, whose chances are tied to the success of their teams.

Another strong candidate would be Johnny Rodgers, the artful dodger of the Nebraska Cornhuskers. Rodgers returned a punt 72 yards for a touchdown against Oklahoma. Pruitt was the first intended tackler to miss him.

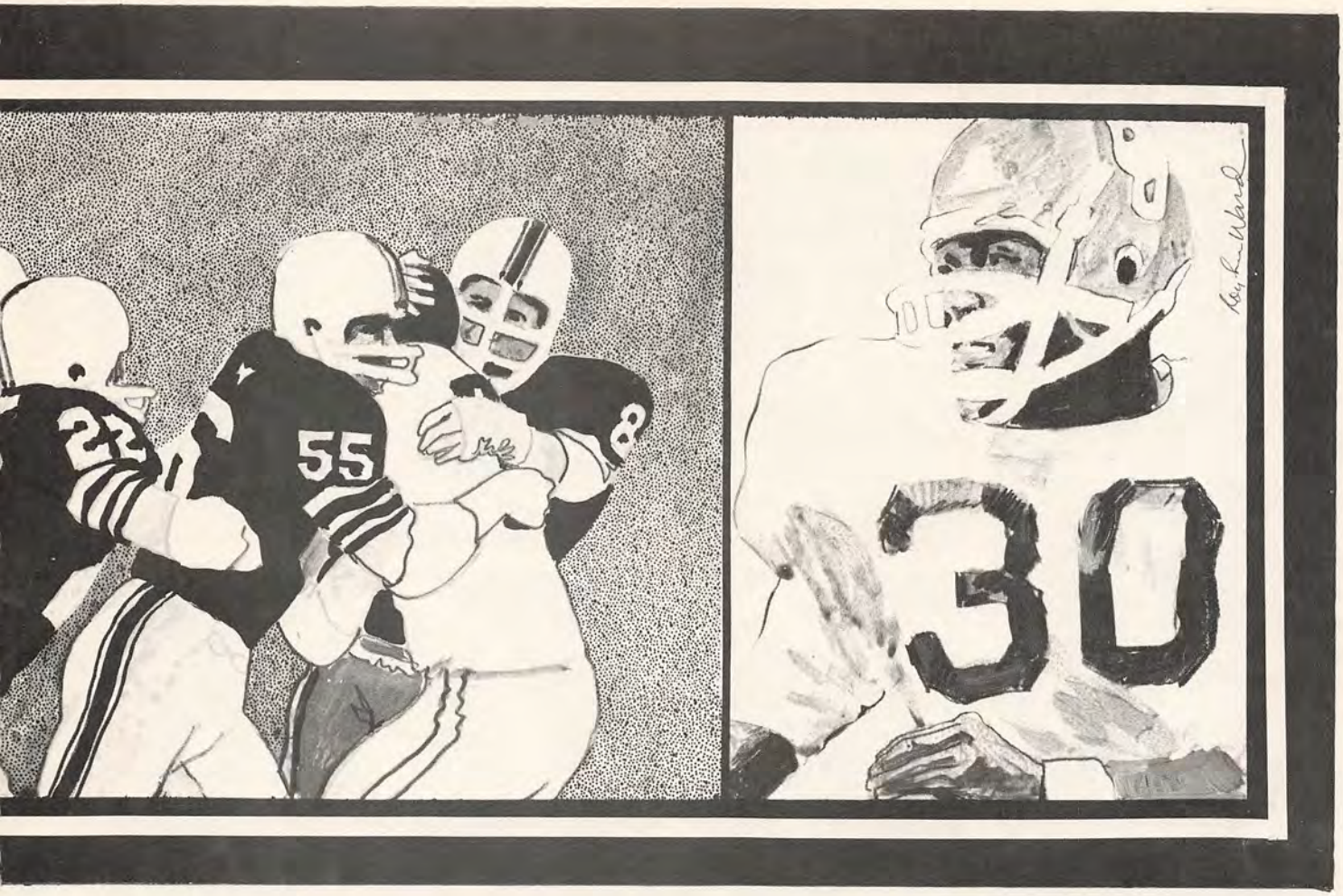
In handicapping the Heisman Trophy, only one conclusion can be drawn with certainty. No lineman will win it. The last one to do so was Leon Hart of Notre Dame, in 1949, and he was an end who caught passes and stood 6-5 and wasn't easily overlooked.

Pruitt finished third in the balloting as a junior, and should qualify this year as the most exciting player on one of the nation's great teams. Of course, winning this award isn't exactly like being elected the little shepherd of kingdom come, but it's close. The Heisman Trophy has become more than just a symbol of football excellence and ambition. It has become a part of the American Dream.

A year ago the sponsors were inspired to add a touch of show business to the package. At halftime of a nationally televised game over ABC, on Thanksgiving Night, they opened a sealed envelope containing the name of the winner, Pat Sullivan, of Auburn. Millions watched and were impressed. Haskins and Sells, the accounting firm that handled the ballots, wouldn't kid about a thing like that.

At least, this was one time when the runner-up didn't smile tearfully and hug the neck of the winner. The choice of Sullivan was disputed by the admirers of Cornell's Ed Marinaro, including Ed himself, who said right out loud that the wrong man won.

This tells you that the Heisman, disagreeable though the voting may sometimes be, is important to college football. It



has tradition and drama and a legend that grows richer by the year.

Slowly, the award has overcome its prejudices, except possibly that one against linemen. In 1935, when Chicago's Jay Berwanger won the first Heisman Trophy, the sponsors — then as now the Downtown Athletic Club of New York — declared that no player west of the Mississippi was eligible.

Not until 1961 did a black, Ernie Davis of Syracuse, received the Heisman. It was later than that, 1965, before the electors would recognize the state of California. USC's Mike Garrett won it.

The odyssey begun in 1935 has spun off many a fascinating side trip. The third Heisman Trophy was awarded to Yale's Clinton Frank, who edged a Colorado halfback named Byron (Whizzer) White. No telling to what heights White might have risen had he won the Heisman. Today, a forgotten man, he sits on the Supreme Court of the United States.

In 1939 Iowa's great Niles Kinnick accepted his trophy and said, movingly, "I thank God I was born to the gridirons of the Midwest and not to the battlefields of Europe." Three and a half years later, Kinnick was killed when his Navy fighter plane crashed in the Pacific.

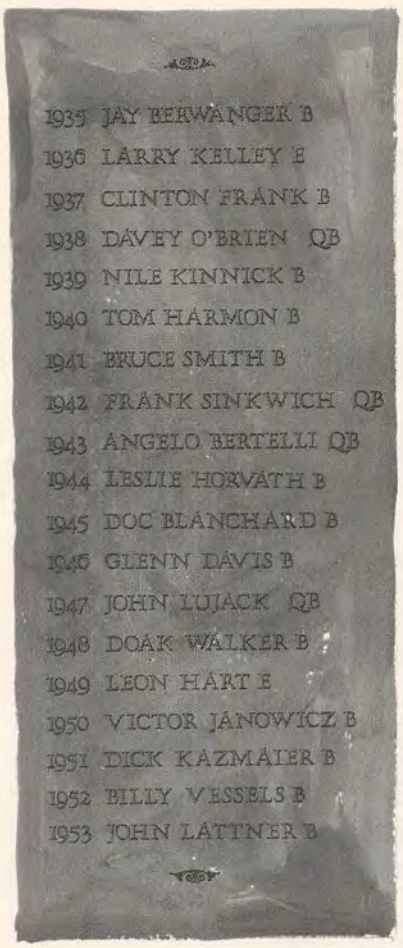
He was one of three Heisman Trophy winners to die before their time: Minnesota's Bruce Smith, of cancer, at 47; the tragic Ernie Davis, of leukemia, within weeks after signing a pro football contract for a bonus of $80,000, before a down was played or a dime could be enjoyed.

Of the 37 previous winners only one played on a losing team, Paul Hornung, Notre Dame's Golden Boy, in 1956. Most of them had at least a trial in pro football but two West Point graduates, Doc Blanchard and Pete Dawkins, made a career of the Army. Dawkins, the 1958 winner, was a Rhodes scholar.

Another West Point product, Glenn Davis, won additional national fame by dating a teen age beauty named Liz Taylor. Way to go, Glenn.

As "Mr. Inside" and "Mr. Outside," Blanchard and Davis won the Heisman back to back and became one of college football's immortal combinations.

So this is the kind of company that awaits Greg Pruitt of Oklahoma, who at 5-9 and 175 would be the smallest winner


1935 JAY BERWANGER B
1936 LARRY KELLEY E
1937 CLINTON FRANK B
1938 DAVEY O'BRIEN QB
1939 NILE KINNICK B
1940 TOM HARMON B
1941 BRUCE SMITH B
1942 FRANK SINKWICH QB
1943 ANGELO BERTELLI QB
1944 LESLIE HORVATH B
1945 DOC BLANCHARD B
1946 GLENN DAVIS B
1947 JOHN LUJACK QB
1948 DOAK WALKER B
1949 LEON HART E
1950 VICTOR JANOWICZ B
1951 DICK KAZMAIER B
1952 BILLY VESSELS B
1953 JOHN LATTNER B

since TCU's Davey O'Brien (5-7 and 150) brought that cherished chunk of bronze to the Southwest in 1938.

Pruitt's statistics would bend the back of a camel: 17 touchdowns, over 1,600 yards rushing, an average of just under a first down per carry. Against USC, Texas and K-State he scored three touchdowns each, and the droll Darrell Royal observed that Pruitt "seemed like he was running downhill against us."

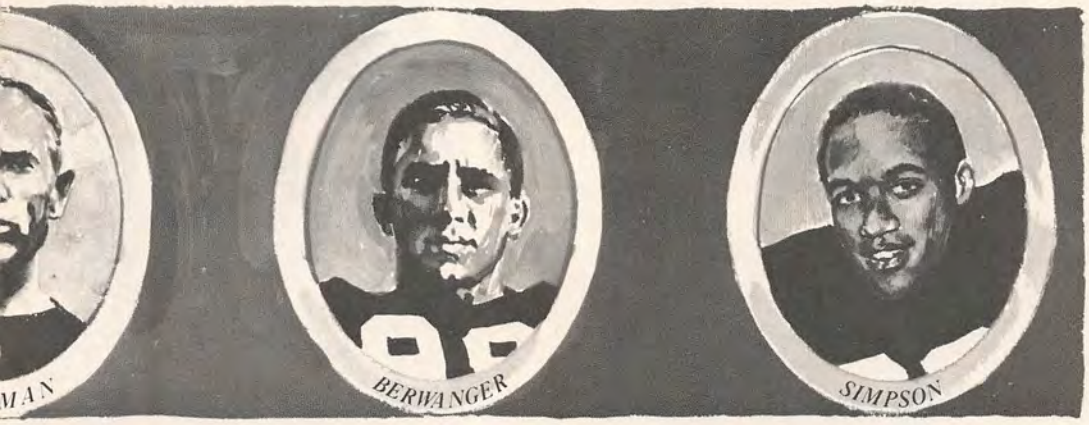
A tough little marble, Pruitt was a four-foot, three-inch quarterback in junior high who had the advantage of being able to stand straight up and take the snap. He learned to take his lumps in neighborhood games that included two of his older brothers and often wound up in the family backyard. Greg was not yet 10. The games attracted him daily until one of the players broke both legs.

He came to Oklahoma as a split end from B.C. Elmore High in Houston, but when Coach Chuck Fairbanks decided to go to the wishbone in mid-1970 Greg was switched to running back. "They told me I was moved to take advantage of my running ability," he recalls. "But when I was moved there I was running second team behind Roy Bell. I started to wonder how my running ability was being used with me on the bench."

By the time the Sooners reached the Bluebonnet Bowl against Alabama, Pruitt was logging enough time to explode for two breath-taking touchdown runs, of 58 and 25 yards. In a sense, it was his introduction to the 1971 season and the announcement of his Heisman candidacy.

He is the kind of runner who causes the film in your Polaroid to blur. Those who have lived with him for any length of time tend to foam slightly at the mouth when they discuss his gifts.

"His greatest asset," says last year's quarterback, Jack Mildren, "is his ability to cut so sharply. He's a tremendous runner. He can catch the football, and he can block. Wow, can he block. He's an intelligent player. He doesn't make mistakes. He's a hell of a clutch football player." Pruitt's speed, assistant coach Barry Switzer suggested that his jersey carry no number at all. It should simply read "hello" on



1954 ALAN AMECHE B
1955 HOWARD CASSADY B
1956 PAUL HORNUNG
1957 JOHN D. CROW B
1958 PETER DAWKINS B
1959 BILLY CANNON B
1960 JOSEPH BELLINO B
1961 ERNEST DAVIS B
1962 TERRY BAKER QB
1963 ROGER STAUBACH QB
1964 JOHN HUARTE QB
1965 MIKE GARRETT B
1966 STEVE SPURRIER QB
1968 O.J. SIMPSON B
1967 GARY BEBAN QB
1969 STEVE OWENS B
1970 JIM PLUNKETT QB
1971 PAT SULLIVAN QB
1972 (GREG PRUITT B)

the front and "good-bye" on the back.

Of course, the day isn't likely to dawn soon when Pruitt limits his conversation to those two words. It is somewhat revealing to learn that his sporting idol is Muhammad Ali, one of the great freelance orators of our age.

"I like a guy who tells you what he's going to do, and then does it," says Greg. As a matter of fact, he tried it himself and, sure enough, he liked it.

"It's just something I did off the wall," he said. "I was always jiving with the other guys about how well I was going to do that week, and so before the Texas game I predicted I'd score three touchdowns and gain 200 yards. When it happened, I couldn't even believe it myself."

He called his shot more than once last season, and now Pruitt is taking dead aim on the 1972 Heisman Trophy, named incidentally after the legendary coach whose Georgia Tech once edged Cumberland College, 222-0.

Twice before the trophy has been taken by Oklahoma running backs, Billy Vessels in 1952 and by workhorse Steve Owens in 1969. Owens' specialty was the power play for tough yards. When Steve visited the campus last fall he was greeted warmly by Pruitt. "If you came back now," Greg confided, "you'd have to play defense."

The Heisman would be the ultimate decoration for the swaggering little halfback who broke four of Owens' records last year. Of course, this assumes that winning the Heisman Trophy is a good thing to have happen to you.

Curiously, for all the fanfare and commotion that surrounds it, the trophy has brought mixed fortune to those who have won it over the past 10 years.

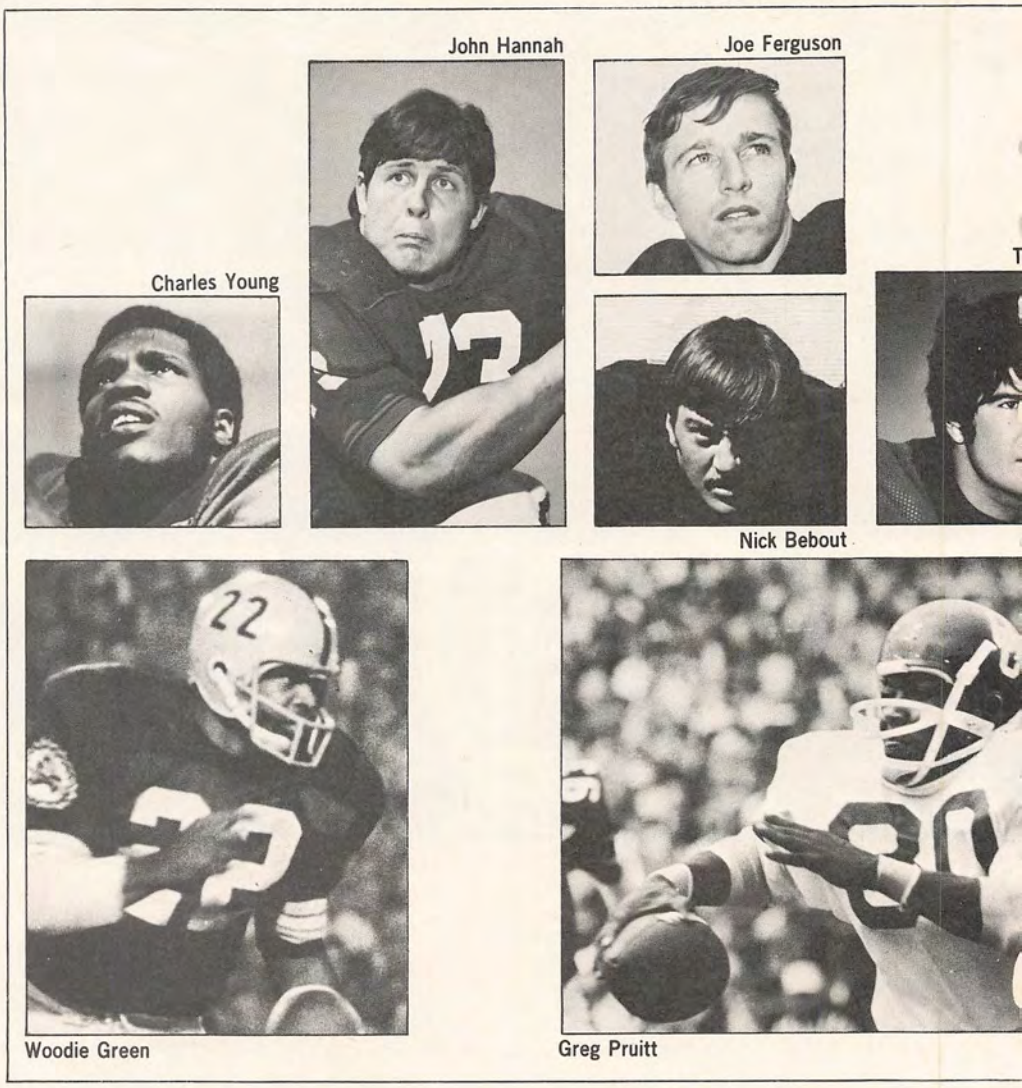
Gary Beban, Steve Spurrier, John Huarte and Terry Baker made impressions in pro football ranging from slight to none. Owens was injured most of his rookie season and O. J. Simpson, the most celebrated player in the land three years ago, is still held prisoner in Buffalo.

But Pruitt wants it. "I think about it a lot," he says. "It puts more pressure on me and I like that. I like to play under pressure."

See Greg run. See Greg run fast. Hello, Greg. Good-bye, Greg.

BEFORE THE KICKOFF

(Continued from page 31)



years (six as a sophomore, four as a junior) and has returned three for touchdowns. The 6-5, 225-pounder is one of those rare types who is due to become a nine-letter winner at MSU before he graduates since he's also a member of the Spartan basketball and baseball teams.

Southern Methodist's Robert Popelka, son of a Czechoslovakian immigrant, is a safetyman who, according to coach Hayden Fry, thinks he's a linebacker. That fact is borne out by 22 tackles against Oklahoma last fall. Owner of 9.7 speed, the 6-0, 180-pound senior seems to specialize in containment. He spent the past summer working as a jailer for Dallas County.

In a day and time of specialization, no honors team is complete without performers whose duty it is to handle punting and place kicking.

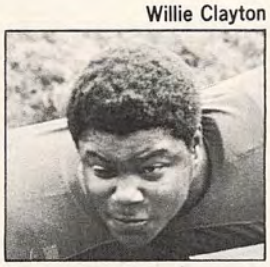
Southern Mississippi's Ray Guy ranks as the nation's premier punter, returning after posting a 42.9 average a year ago. Between punts, however, he'll be operating at quarterback after switching from the secondary in the spring. Add the fact that he's

Jerry Sisemore

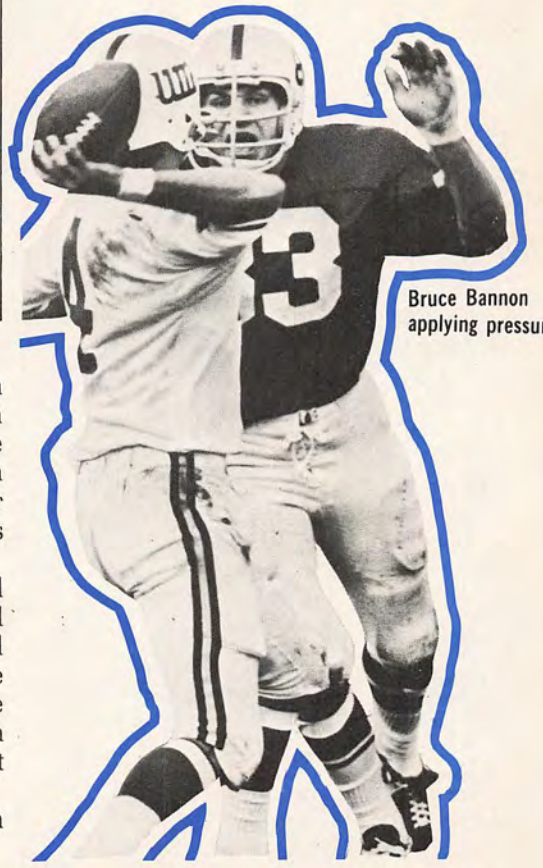
Johnny Rodgers

Tom Brahaney

Willie Clayton



Charlie Davis



Bruce Bannon applying pressure

averaged a strikeout per inning during his collegiate pitching career and recently defeated the campus ping-pong champ after two whole days of practice and you get some idea of his natural ability.

The placement duties go to Temple's strong-legged Nick Mike-Mayer, the nation's second-ranked kick scorer last year with 12 of 17 field goals and 26 conversions for 62 points.

There is evidence that a healthy percentage of those players selected to pre-season teams rise to the challenge and return at season's end as bona fide members of All-America squads. On the other hand, there are reasons to be wary. Like in the case of an Alabama player named Tommy Wade a few years back.

After being picked to several pre-season teams he was injured even before the first kickoff and didn't play a down the entire season. Still, he was among those who received honorable mention on one of the wire service post season All-America teams.

No doubt the boys on Madison Avenue loved it.

SF
12

the precious extra beat . . .

In every football game there are moments frozen in time, so bold or graceful or fierce that a slight tug at the memory can recall them in every detail, like a color slide click-clacked onto a portable screen.

A halfback hit so hard his helmet flies loose, so that for a split instant the crowd recoils and gasps and thinks, "omigod, they knocked his . . . ", but, no, it was only his helmet.

A tackle viciously applied in an open field, one on one, where you can feel it in your bones. Or a receiver reaching up to heaven for a pass you couldn't bring in on radar, but he catches it. Or maybe just the ball in the air, pinned against a wine-colored sky, the would-be winning pass or field goal and the moment is so exquisite you don't really care if it never comes down.

There is a moment like that in the photograph on the adjoining columns, and in the pages that follow, and in all the issues to come of Chris Schenkel's SPORTSCENE.

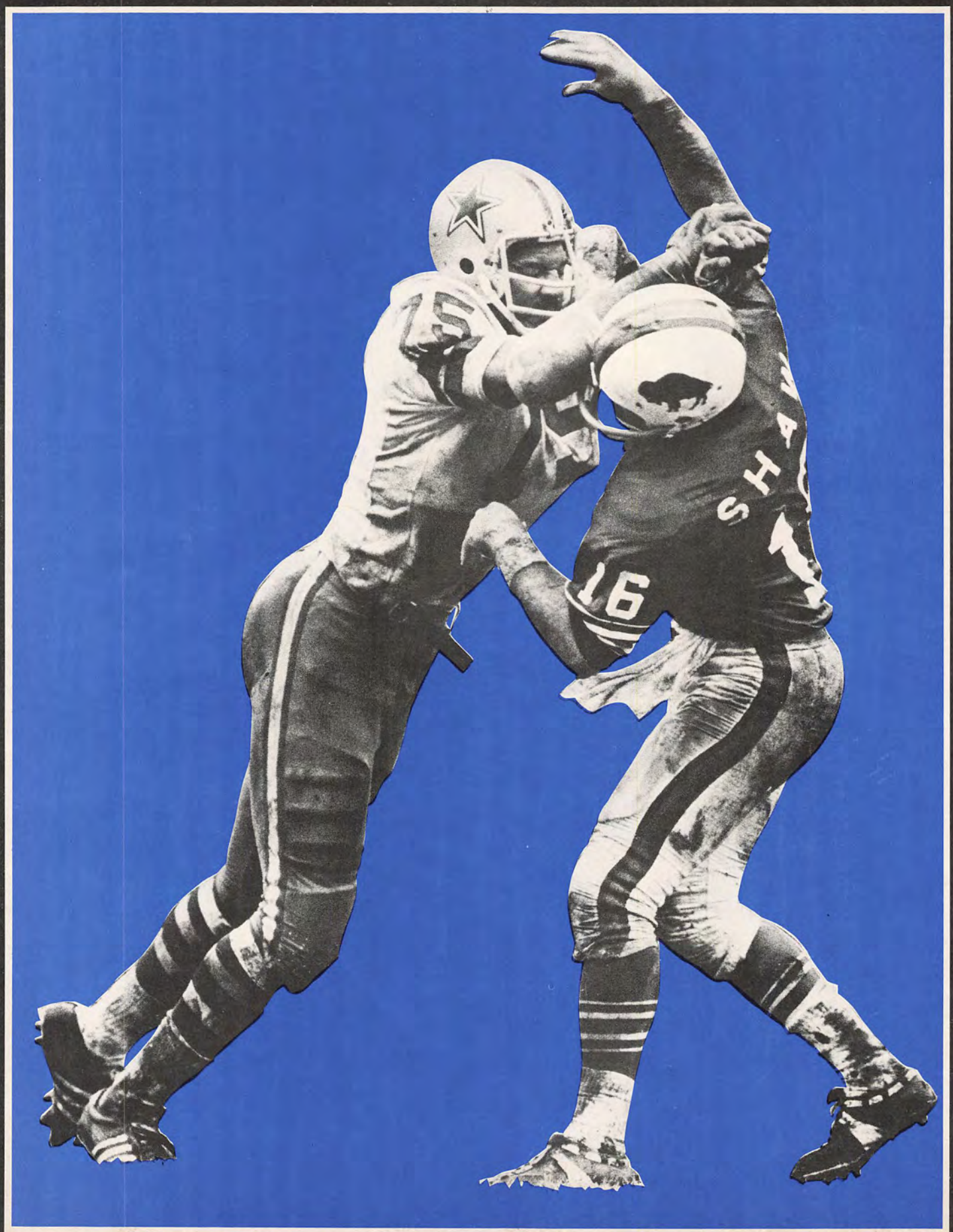
In this one, you see the full sweep of the action, the San Francisco line bent and braced trying to provide that precious extra beat for John Brodie to unload. And there, looming over him, body unfurled, menacing as hell, is Merlin Olsen of the Rams. There is about this picture a quality of the cage where Clyde Beatty entertains his jungle friends, equipped only with a chair and a whip. Right on, Clyde.

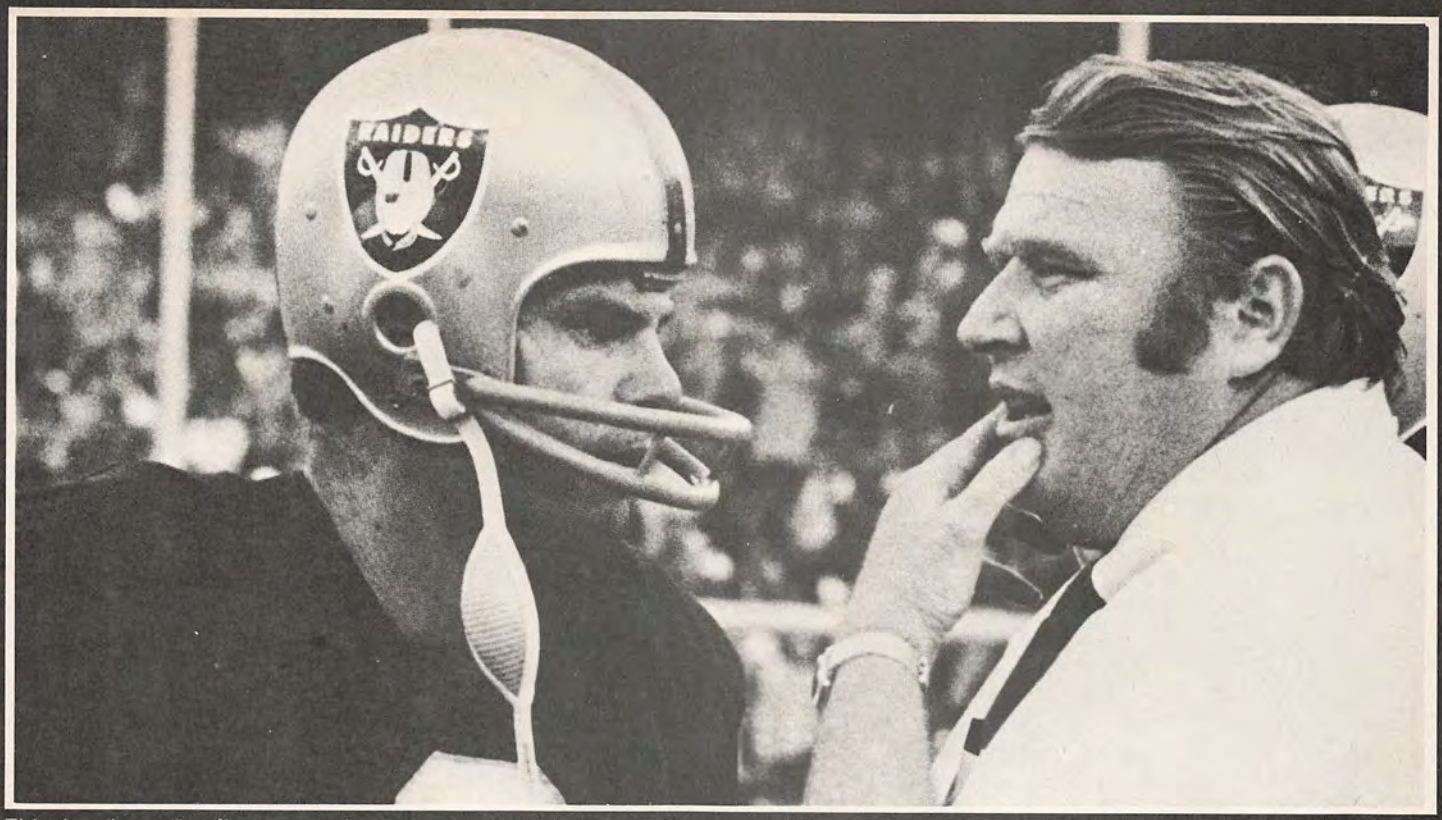
This is the promise of football, and the promise of SPORTSCENE. Starting with this annual issue, and through each month in a season of Sundays (and Saturdays and some Monday nights) this magazine will lay the action right in your lap, in a way that no other medium can. Memories fade and, for all the miracles of its slo-mo and stop-action and instant replay, television lacks the permanence of a great still photograph.

Times change. College football players no longer sit in their rooms the night before a big game, popping popcorn and singing the fight song. The sport has grown so large it has created its own cosmos. But one condition remains constant. It is still a game of combat, played by angry people trying to hurt each other, which is the way they show their respect. It is a game of bombs and ballet slippers.

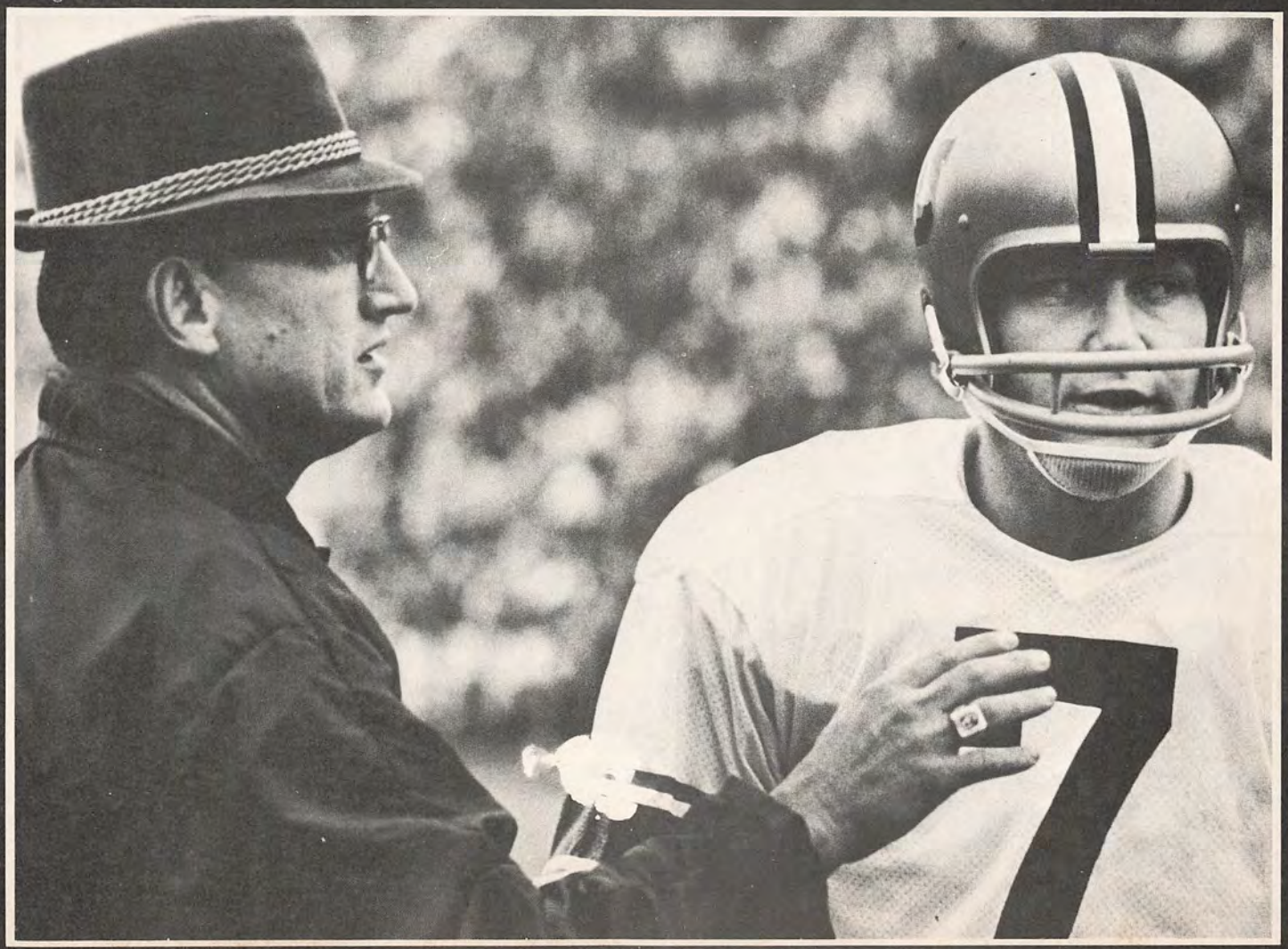
You'll get this view of the scene, each month, in SPORTSCENE. It's almost as good as being on the line of scrimmage. And less hazardous to your health.

As harmless as a kiss from the Mafia, Dallas' hulking Jethro Pugh hammers Buffalo's Dennis Shaw. There are moments when what every quarterback needs most is a trapdoor.

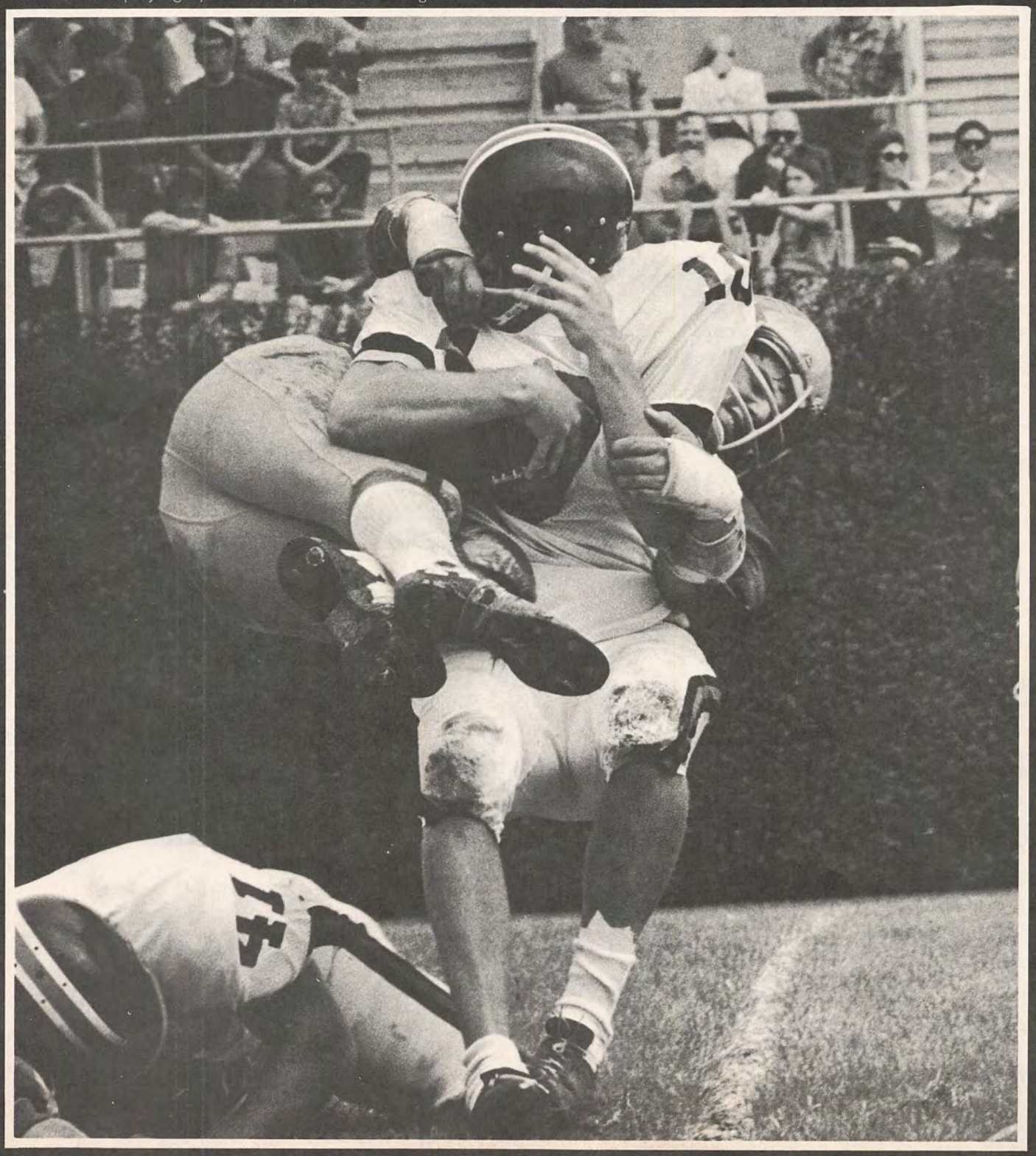




This is where the first guess is born, on the sideline, in the heat of the contest. The coach and his quarterback stand apart from the frenzy of the crowd, intent, thoughtful, tuned to the job at hand. Oh, to eavesdrop. Oh, to know what deathless words pass between them, what zig-outs and traps and weakside reverses. Oakland's John Madden massages his chin, consults with Daryle Lamonica (top). Eddie Crowder, Tyrolean-capped Colorado coach (bottom), points Ken Johnson toward the goal-line.



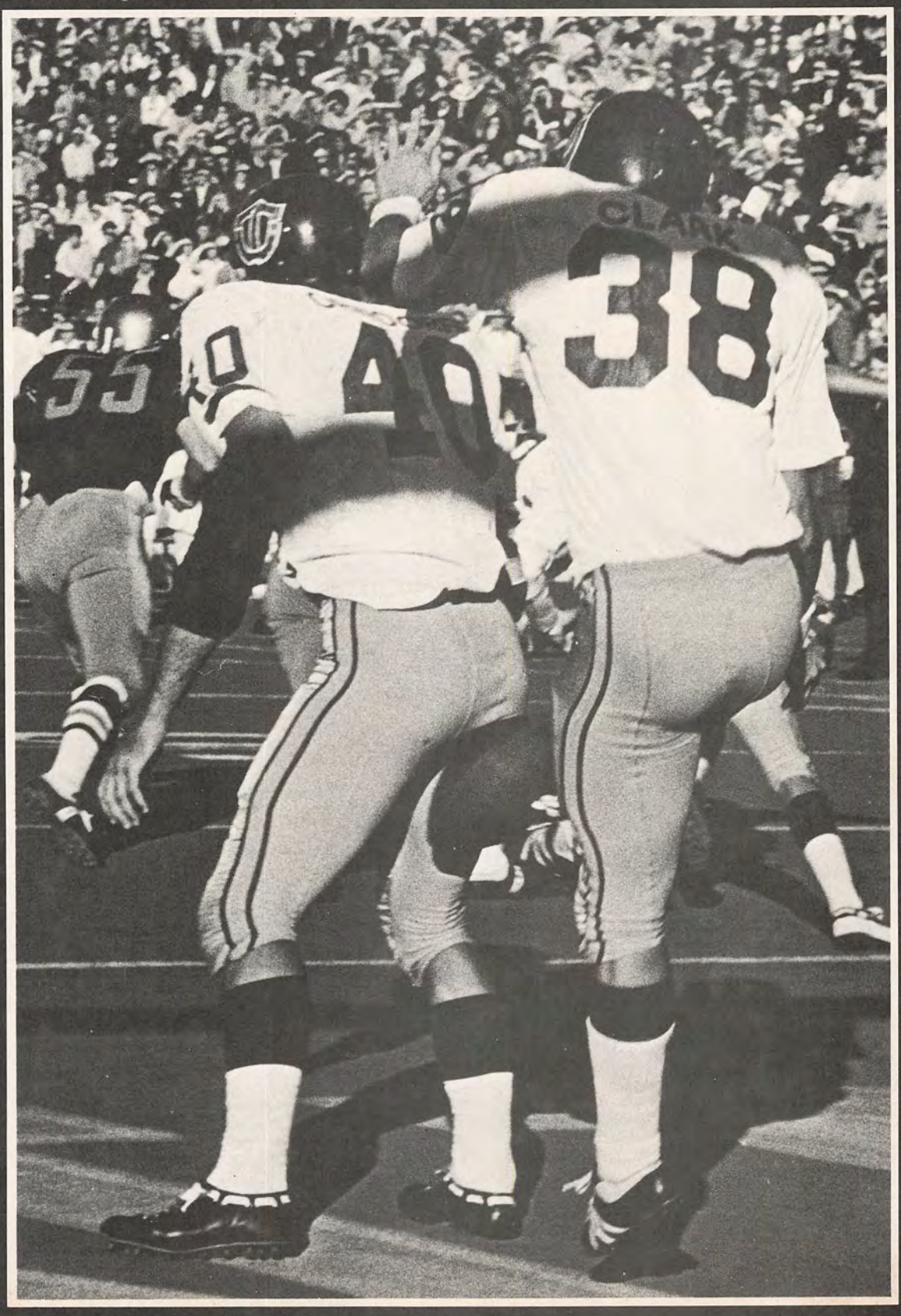
Joe Carbone of Delaware seems to be yanking on Bob Eisenman's face mask as he rassles down the Gettysburg quarterback. This is a good way to get your neck wrung like a chicken. It is not legal. But it is part of what makes football, and playing quarterback, so interesting.



This is a scene from any lineman's dream, along with kicking sand in Joe Namath's face and stealing his girl(s). A blissfully unaware referee appears on the verge of being pounced on by the Chicago ogre, Dick Butkus. For reasons we can't explain, linebackers do not often avoid running over referees when they get in the way of their work.

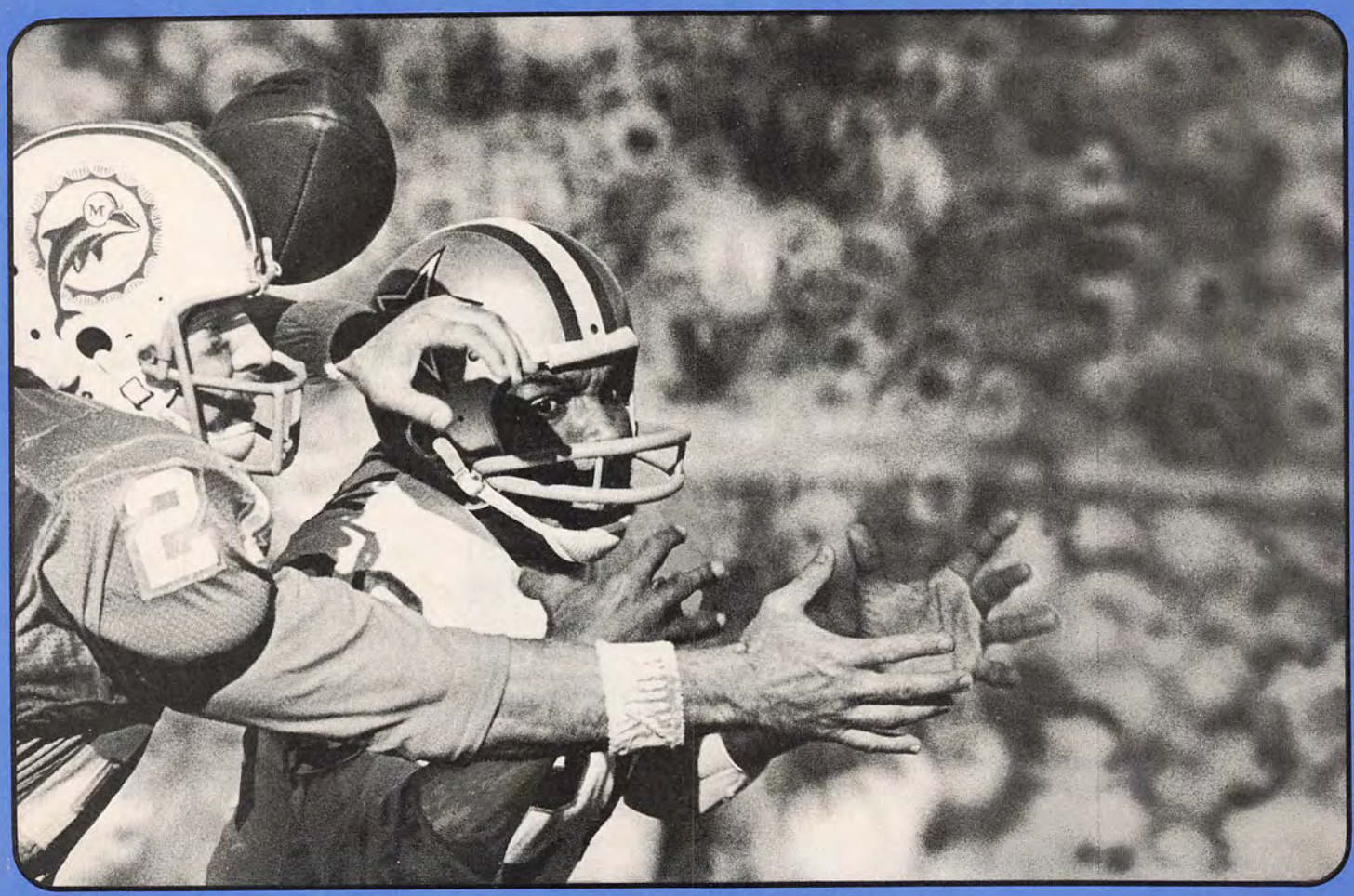
If he kicked you once, will he kick you again? Paul Orndorff of Tampa has just backed into a punt launched by teammate Joey Clark. It is an awful time for Tampa, a moment of horror for the two players involved. But just looking at it, knowing how surprised Orndorff must have been when he felt the football strike the seat of his pants, it is hard to keep from laughing.

SPORTSCENE brings you the good and the dumb, the proud and the profane. It is the only monthly, all-football magazine covering both the pros and the colleges. Pudge Heffelfinger would have wanted it that way.



SUPER SHOT

The Medallion Award Photo of the Year



The Chris Schenkel Medallion Award for the best football photo of 1971 goes to – son of a flashgun! – John E. Biever, Port Washington, Wisc. John's Daddy, Vernon, has won three Pro Football Hall of Fame honors for best photos of prior years. Many of the elder Biever's shots are to be found in this issue, but this is the first national award for the 21-year-old John, a junior at the University of Wisconsin, and summertime photo staffer for The Milwaukee Journal. John's prize-winning picture captures Dallas cornerback Herb Adderley in hand-to-hand battle with Miami halfback Jim Kiick in Super Bowl VI.

From Jersey To Nebraska To Greatness

It's located in what is called the Greenville Area, a section of Jersey City, N. J., which is far less attractive than the name implies. Snyder High School was built there in 1924 and only last year was given a face-lifting so that it might retain its accreditation. Across the street in the maze of concrete congestion is the campus of Jersey City State College and down the block is an elementary school and the A. Harry Moore School for Handicapped Children. The Fifth Precinct Police Station is nearby, handy.

At Snyder, where the athletic equipment was a notch below that of several of the city's more affluent schools, members of the football team were instructed by their coach to carry garbage can lids with them when traveling to and from Roosevelt Stadium on the outskirts of town. "We used them," one of the players recalls, "to protect ourselves with in case kids from the other schools threw rocks and stuff at our bus windows when we left the stadium."

Until four years ago, college recruiters in search of football talent paid the Snyder Tigers little mind. The top prospects and the best teams were generally found at all-black Lincoln High. "It was," recalls Nebraska defensive line coach Monte Kiffin, "the first year we recruited in New Jersey and a coach mentioned that there was a kid over at Snyder that someone ought to be looking at." Kiffin checked and found that the youngster's efforts as an offensive tackle and all-purpose defensive lineman had earned him recognition as the Outstanding Lineman in Hudson County. He had been named third team All-New Jersey and afforded honorable mention on one of the prep All-America teams.

Still, he was hardly to be considered in the class with such high school wonderboys as, say, Jack Mildren, an Abilene, Tex., kid who had Oklahoma recruiters begging on bended knee, or Shreveport, La., passing whiz Joe Ferguson who had Arkansas coaches dreaming of things like national championships. In the jargon of the athletic world, Rich Glover was a "sleeper", one of those youngsters big-time colleges often gamble on, hoping they will blossom into varsity material.

Even after word got around that Nebraska had taken an interest in the Snyder lineman, recruiters' desire to treat him to T-bones hardly ran rampant. Three or four schools — Rich doesn't remember for sure — expressed some interest and he did, in fact, visit the Iowa campus before deciding to make his college home in Lincoln, Neb.

Today, with his final year of collegiate eligibility looming before him, Rich Glover is regarded by most close followers of the game as the premier lineman, offense or defense, operating within the framework of the NCAA. A consensus All-America as a junior, the 6-1, 234-pound middle guard should, barring flood, fire or famine, step forward at the end of the 1972 campaign to collect the major awards — the Lombardi Trophy, the Outland Award — reserved to honor outstanding line play.

"My chief goal," the soft-spoken physical education major says, "is to help win the national

championship again. That's what we're all working for. Then, I'd like to win the lineman awards and be a No. 1 draft pick by the pros."

Since his arrival on the Nebraska campus, Glover's improvement has given coach Bob Devaney and his staff just cause to wonder at his ultimate potential. Still, had it not been for the toll taken by graduation and injury at the middle guard spot, Glover might well today be just another face in the crowd of unheralded linemen. As a sophomore he labored as a reserve defensive tackle, a job more suited for youngsters who stand a few inches taller than his 6-1. Then, in the spring prior to his junior season, Devaney sent forth instructions to give him a shot at middle guard. He was an immediate hit and what resulted the following season were oft-told tales like the one which had a Kansas center making a mid-week declaration that he thought he could handle Glover one-on-one and then Glover dumping the KU quarterback for losses on three of the first four plays on Saturday. In the showdown game against Oklahoma he was credited with 22 tackles and a fumble recovery and was cited at the nation's college Lineman of the Week. Then came the All-America honors.

"There was this one game when a big fight broke out on the field and all these policemen riding horses came out to break it up. Man, I didn't want to get trampled so I got out of there in a hurry."

Rich Glover, recalling his days as a high school gridder

"Rich," says Kiffin, "has incredible strength but too often opponents underestimate his quickness. He was a complete football player last fall yet he worked harder this past spring than I've ever seen him work before."

So intense is Glover's desire to realize his full potential that for the first time in his athletic career he is lifting weights to, Heaven forbid, increase his strength. While Nebraska coaches were unanimous in the opinion that the gifted youngster had an excellent spring training, Glover casts a dissenting vote. "It was pretty good up until the final spring game," he deadpans, "then the Whites upset the Reds — and I was on the Reds."

At the request of the Jersey City mayor, Rich spent the first half of the summer working in his hometown's recreation program, directing youngsters away from the street corners and into the parks for organized basketball and baseball games and foot races. He returned to Lincoln for the second semester of summer school, a move which will enable him to graduate next spring after four years of college.

Professional football, of course, looms in the immediate future but beyond that Glover looks to the day when he can work in athletics from another vantage point. "I would like to go back and be a gym teacher and coach at my old high school," he says. "I feel that there I can make a contribution, not only to the athletic program, but to the community.

"Things are picking up at Snyder High now. They're playing pretty good ball and getting a little better equipment. They've got things moving in the right direction. I go home now and they tell me about all these college coaches that are coming around, looking for football players. That's really great."

What they're looking for, of course, is another Rich Glover. It might well be a long wait.

FROM LEHIGH TO LONG BEACH

(Continued from page 23) and field goal specialist Bill Planisek, the school's all-time scoring leader. The offensive backfield must be replaced with such leading candidates as letterman quarterback Todd Somers, running back Johnny Cooks who was injured last year, fullback Harold Smith and flanker Steve Harris, a 9.7 speedster. Passing may well become a primary weapon with a trio of first rate receivers — Harris, split end Jim Lash and tight end Steve Craig — on hand. Nine new starters must be found on defense where tackle Jim Anderson and linebacker Mike Varty account for all the starting experience. The entire secondary must be rebuilt and the job will begin with the elevation of Greg Strunk, whose 93-yard kickoff return last year led to the defeat of Ohio State, and Bob Buetel, who was awarded another year of eligibility after a knee injury in '71.

John Pont is firm in his belief that the success of his Indiana Hoosiers this fall will depend on how well they fare in the season's early going. They finished strong last year and return seven offensive and nine defensive regulars, indicating that a noteworthy jump forward is possible. Only the loss of starting tackles and the absence of the real speedster at running back or wide receiver keeps the offense from being rock solid. Ted McNulty, who came on strong in the second half of the '71 campaign, returns at quarterback and has as companions fullback Ken St. Pierre and tailback Ken Starling. The defensive front looks strong with ends Marshall McCullough and Bill Pipp and tackles Joe Pawlitsch and Carl Barzilauskas back. If newcomers are able to move in at outside linebacker and perform well, Pont's defense could be much improved. The secondary is solid with returnees Dan Lintner, Mack Findley and Larry Wright all on hand.

Frank Lauterbur enters his second year as head coach at Iowa, welcoming back four offensive and seven defensive regulars off a 1-10 squad. Gone, however, are three of the team's top four running backs, four members of the offensive forward wall and top receiver Dave Triplett. Fleet running back Craig Johnson returns as do three tested quarterbacks — Rob Fick, Frank Sunderman and Kyle Skogman. The defense could be stronger with the return of such line standouts as Jerry Nelson and Bill Windauer. Some help can be expected from a better than average group of sophomores.

New Minnesota coach Cal Stoll hopes to shoot new life into a Gopher team which went 4-7 last year and fielded a defense which was something less than a terror. Though there are 32 lettermen returning that number includes many who saw only limited action in '71 and, in fact, Stoll insists that help must come from members of last year's frosh squad if numerous holes are to be filled. Among the most notable returnees are All-Big Ten end Doug Kingsriter, flanker George Honza, fullback John King and quarterback Bob Morgan. Heading the list of defensive veterans back are backs Tim Alderson and Mike White (both injured last year), tackles Clayton Scheuer and John Krol and end Steve Neils.

The chief point of concern during Notre Dame's spring training was the restocking of a defensive unit which graduated no less than eight starters. Coach Ara Parseghian can count only tackle Greg Marx, a two year starter, and linebackers Jim O'Malley and Jim Musuraca as veterans. It would be difficult, however, to assume the Irish, a traditional defensive powerhouse, won't again provide headaches for the opposition. Back-up men a year ago, George Hayduk and Tom Freistroffer will move in at ends, providing that newcomer Mike Fanning (6-6, 260) doesn't take one of the spots away. Seniors Mike Webb and Pat McGraw could round out the linebacking corps. Deep back Ken Schlezes saw considerable action last year and could be joined by Joe Hagger and Terry Garner in the secondary. Cliff Brown, who stepped into the starting role after three games last year, and Pat Steenberge both return at quarterback and the list of running backs, including Larry Parker, Greg Hill, Gary Diminick and Darryll Dewan, looks solid. Two strong fullbacks, Andy Huff and John Cieszkowski, are back. Standout tight end Mike Creaney, a regular last year, and back-up split end Willie Townsend provide targets for Irish passers. Tackle John Dampeer heads an offensive line cast which includes such noteworthy performers as guards Dave Casper and Frank Pomarico and center Dave Drew.

Northern Illinois coach Jerry Ippoliti has junked the Veer attack for the I so that he can better utilize the power of junior fullback Mark Kellar, last year's leading scorer (48 points) and most valuable player for the Huskies. Eighteen regulars are back from a 5-5-1 team, assuring progress of the NIU rebuilding program. Kellar will be joined in the backfield by quarterback Terry Drugan, speedy tailback Byron Florence and they'll operate behind a forward wall which averages 220 pounds per man. A good crop of receivers, including Willie Hatter, Dan Gentile and Don Martin, is on hand. Defensively, the Huskies must replace only a cornerback and two linebackers. The front four which tips the scales at 249 pounds per man, middle linebacker Larry Clark, and a solid secondary paint a bright picture. A bumper crop of good sophomores adds to the plus factors.

Graduation dealt Dayton a

lethal blow, taking away such seasoning as quarterback Ron Krechting and running back Gary Kosins. Coach John McVay is rebuilding his backfield around returning fullback Ed Zink (who had a 4.7 rushing average as a sophomore) and lettermen running backs Denny Whitehead and Walt Wingard. If a passer steps forth, one of the chief weapons will again be standout receiver Larry Nickels who hauled in a school record 40 for 506 yards a year ago. The line should be improved with the presence of centers Mike Kundert and Steve Siewe, guard Steve Jaye and tackles Bob Janke and Gary Radzik. Linebacking looks to be the strongest spot on the team with Jake Burkhardt (moving from defensive end), Tim Quinn and Tom Palcic all capable performers. Only two lettermen, Dwight Mosley and Rick Heben, return in the secondary and three of the front four must be replaced.

At Cincinnati they're hailing redshirt sophomore Mike Shoemaker as the next Greg Cook. He'll be directing a backfield which includes bruising fullback Reggie Harrison (a 4.7 average as a sophomore), tailback Dick James and flanker Mike White. Split end Zeke Harden, who showed signs of greatness as a junior, could add a new dimension to the offense, enabling the Bearcats to post their third consecutive winning season. To do so, however, coach Ray Callahan will have to come up with three defensive linemen, two linebackers and two cornerbacks to replace graduated starters.

Marshall, continuing to rebuild its program after the tragic 1970 plane crash, will need a more consistent ball-control offense and a tightening of the defense if it is to improve on last year's 2-8 record. There will be only four seniors on the '72 squad as 29 already game-seasoned sophomores and juniors carry the brunt of the Herd's attack. Top rusher John Johnstonbaugh is back and an interesting battle looms at quarterback where transfer Sam Twardoski will battle letterman Reggie Oliver. Sophomore split end Lanny Steed could add air power to the offense.

Quarterbacks Paul Smith (48 of 107 for 517 yards) and Tim Dydo (50 of 104 for 577) return along with Xavier's leading rusher, Al Banks (570 yards), as coach Tom Cecchini tries to lift his team to greater heights than last year's 1-9 reading. A number of returning starters plus some position shuffling could point things in a more positive direction this fall.

In the Mid-American Conference they're justifiably calling it the Year of the Running Backs. And the runner most likely to have the biggest year is flashy Paul Miles, the Bowling Green junior whose 1,185 yards ranked him high nationally last season.

With Miles doing the legwork and with seasoned quarterback Reed Lamport, who hit on 71 of 154 passes for 1,006 yards as a sophomore, Bowling Green could move into the No. 1 spot so long occupied by Toledo. There is also a strong supporting cast on hand since only two offensive vacancies must be filled and four defensive jobs will be manned by new faces.

Ohio University is anxiously awaiting the return to form of running back Bill Gray who ranked eighth nationally two years ago as a sophomore with 1,064 yards. He was hobbled by injuries much of last year yet still showed signs of brilliance, gaining over 200 yards against Kentucky. Do-everything Dave Juenger, a standout receiver as a sophomore before handling the quarterbacking in '71, is moving to tight end as sophomore Rich Bevly moves in at quarterback.

Not to be outdone, Miami (Ohio) would have you give a look at their contribution, Bob Hitchens who galloped for 1,154 yards a year ago.

At Toledo they're mourning the loss of 16 starting seniors who leave behind a string of 35 consecutive victories and three Tangerine Bowl wins. While coach Jack Murphy has a lot of holes to fill, there is a strong possibility that the streak will be extended a bit more. Joe Schwartz, who picked up 1,079 yards as a halfback last year, returns to his old high school position, assuming the quarterbacking job which Ealey handled so brilliantly.

Western Michigan appears to be best suited to putting a stop to some of the ground game rampage, sporting a defense which could again approach the polish it showed last year when it held 10 opponents to 93.2 yards per game. While the defense is trying to throw up a barricade, the offense will hope to spring a rushing ace of its own in Larry Cates who picked up 817 yards last fall.

Don James' Kent State Flashes are something of an unknown quantity in view of the fact that a number of transfers will likely play major roles. Quarterback Larry Hayes is back and one of the country's swiftest youngsters, Gerald Tinker, is set to work at flanker.

Last year there were 31 conference records broken or tied and there is little reason to believe that trend won't continue this season.

How they'll finish

Big 10

Illinois, Ohio State, Purdue, Michigan, Michigan State, Wisconsin, Northwestern, Indiana, Iowa, Minnesota.

Mid-American

Bowling Green, Ohio University, Miami (Ohio), Toledo, Western Michigan, Kent State.

Independents

Winners: Notre Dame, Cincinnati, Northern Illinois;

Losers: Dayton, Marshall, Xavier.

Cornhusker, Longhorn Reigns Must End Sometime, Like '72

The Colorado Buffaloes haven't won the Big Eight Conference title since 1961 but Eddie Crowder's talent-laden squad hopes to pick up that honor enroute to bigger and better things — like the first national championship in the school's history — this season. Back from last year's No. 3-ranked team are six offensive and seven defensive regulars, top-notch candidates waiting in line for the vacated spots, and a list of blue ribbon performers capable of playing for any college team in the country. The Buff offense will again revolve around the do-every-

thing ability of quarterback Ken Johnson and running back Charlie Davis whose rushing total (1,386 yards) last fall made him the second most productive soph rusher in NCAA history. Jon Keyworth, back from a leg injury which sidelined him last fall, moves into the slotback role. Tackles Greg Horton and Jake Zumbach, guard Chuck Mandril and center William McDonald return in the line. Bud Magrum, a third team All-America last year as a guard, moves to linebacker in the CU defensive alignment, joining such standouts as Randy Geist, Billie Drake and John Stavely. Rick Kay is back at one end and defensive backs Cullen Bryant and John Stearns return with a year's seasoning. As if it needed still more plus factors in its pursuit of national supremacy, Colorado will face its most crucial tests — against defending champ Nebraska, Oklahoma, and Iowa State — at home. The biggest losses are the explosive kick returns and pass receiving of 9.2 sprinter Cliff Branch.

No team, say the record books, has ever managed to collect three consecutive national championships but Nebraska's Cornhuskers have the manpower to make a strong run at it. Throw in the fact that Bob Devaney has already publicly announced that this will be his final season as coach and the 'Huskers have in-

centive to burn. They also appear to have talent to spare with the return of All-America picks Johnny Rodgers (slot back), Rich Glover (middle guard) and Willie Harper (defensive end). Then, there is quarterback David Humm who Nebraska followers insist will have no trouble filling the shoes of departed Jerry Tagge and Van Brownson. Returning from the '71 championship team are also such offensive performers as fullback Bill Olds, tight end Jerry List, tackle Daryl White and center Doug Dumler. Opponents hoping to build up impressive scores on Devaney's defense had just as well forget it with Glover, Harper, Bill Janssen, Dave Mason and back Joe Blahak around. Like Colorado, the Cornhuskers have talented performers waiting for their first crack at starting duty.

Oklahoma coach Chuck Fairbanks says, believe it or not, that his running backs will be even better this go-round than they were enroute to the No. 2 spot in the national polls last year. To do so, All-America scatback Greg Pruitt will have to accumulate more than 1,665 yards, former Big Eight Soph of the Year Joe Wylie needs only to have an injury free season and fullback Leon Crosswhite will have to block *two* people at a time in between rushes exceeding a 4.9 per carry average. All-America center Tom

Brahaney and tight end Al Chandler pace an offensive line which also includes such battle veterans as tackles Dean Unruh and Robert Jensen and guard Ken Jones. The big question, however, is how to go about replacing a multi-talented quarterback like departed Jack Mildren. Back are Dave Robertson and James Stokely who saw token action in '71 but they are due considerable pressure from sophomore candidates Steve Davis, Paul Krause and Gary Vorpahl. The defense could prove to be even better this year with the return of such key performers as end Raymond Hamilton, tackles Lucious Selmon and Derland Moore and halfback Kenith Pope.

Iowa State, which made its first-ever bowl appearance last year against LSU in the Sun Bowl, will sacrifice some of its running attack this season, moving leading ground gainer George Amundson from tailback to quarterback. Five other starters return, including top receivers Keith Krepfle, Ike Harris and Willie Jones. Much of the running threat may well be presented by fleet Jerry Moses who is healthy after an early season foot injury last year. Eight defensive starters, including monster Matt Blair and Lawrence Hunt, a 6-4, 240-pound tackle, are back and if a suitable replacement for graduated middle linebacker Keith Schroeder is found the defense could be solid.

A more poised and experienced Dennis Morrison returns to quarterback Kansas State. "I have a strong positive feeling about the season simply because of Morrison," testifies coach Vince Gibson. The nation's ninth ranked passer last fall, Morrison will have such seasoned receivers as junior Henry Childs (30 for 396 yards), speedy Fred Merrill and John Goerger as targets. One of the league's most exciting runners, Isaac Jackson, returns along with fullback Bill Holman. Seven defensive starters are back along with tackle Charles Clarington who started as a sophomore before missing last season with injuries. More depth, experience and talented newcomers lend to the optimism.

Missouri's defensive unit was reduced by graduation to a single returning starter — guard Bob Orsi — leaving spots to be filled by varsity members with little game experience or junior college transfers. On the positive side, considerably more offensive backfield depth is anticipated with the return of veterans Jack Bastable and Don Johnson plus upcoming junior college All-Americans Tommy Reamon and Jimmy Smith, and Bill Ziegler, a standout on the frosh team last year. The quarterbacking chores will be handled by Ed Johndrow who saw late season duty last year, juco transfer John Cherry and sophomores Tony Gillick and Jim Goble. Five offensive linemen, led by center Scott Sodergren and guard Mark Clark, return.

Look for the Kansas Jayhawks to go to the air a great deal more this fall, flying on the arm of veteran quarterback David Jaynes. Coach Don Fambrough also points to the breakaway running abilities of returnees Delvin Williams and Jerome Nelloms. Topping the list of receivers is All-Big Eight tight end John Schroll (who caught 40 for 491 yards last year) and flanker Marvin Foster. In the line, however, only part-time center Mike McDaniel returns. The defensive line picture is brighter with four of the five front men returning but holes must be filled at linebacker and in the secondary. The

Razorback receiver Mike Reppond

Nebraska defender Joe Blahak

Arkansas scooter Jon Richardson

development of the offensive line will provide the yardstick of the Jayhawks' success in '72.

Injuries prevented Oklahoma State from ever getting untracked last year. A little less activity in the training room plus the return of quarterback Brent Blackman to the form he showed before suffering a mid-season attack of appendicitis could find the Cowboys improved. Steve Pettes and Reuben Gant will again serve as targets for Blackman's passes. The entire offensive line returns, led by talented tackles Mike Treece and Bon Boatwright. Fullback Cleveland Vann lends power to the running game. Hopefully, junior college transfers James Nunn and Archie White will add a breakaway threat. Defensively there are five returnees on hand, led by middle guard Barry Price. Linebacking help for Bubba Bain is one of the key trouble spots. Dave Smith moves up to assume the head coaching duties this fall.

Top man in the Southwest Conference is quarterback Joe Ferguson who broke all of Arkansas' passing and total offense records a year ago. He returns to direct a talent-blessed Razorback squad which boasts no less than six All-SWC players back from a 8-2-1 team. Frank Broyles' offense, which led the league in '71, could house even more fireworks this season with such ammunition as tailbacks Jon Richardson and Dickey Morton owning game-breaking running ability. Richardson, who was averaging over 100 yards per game last year before suffering a broken leg against Tulsa, is also a quality receiver as is SWC leader Mike Reppond (56 for 987 yards). If replacements at tackles and tight end live up to expectations there should be no weakness in the Hog offense. The defense developed steadily last year and returns people like SWC defensive player of the year Danny Rhodes at linebacker and cornerback Louis Campbell who intercepted seven passes in '71. Improvement in the secondary could make the Razorback defense outstanding.

Texas' Darrell Royal was wearing a sour look at the completion of spring training, noting that one scrimmage was "like throwing two wool socks together; you couldn't hear a thing." The Longhorns, looking for an unprecedented fifth straight SWC title, will field a lot of familiar faces in unfamiliar places this fall. The most critical move in the fruitbasket-turnover in Austin finds all-league defensive back Alan Lowry moving to quarterback in the UT Wishbone attack. He'll direct a potential offensive which finds ex-linebacker Glenn Gaspard at fullback with ex-fullback Dennis Ladd moving over to halfback. Junior halfback Don Burrisk rounds out the foursome. The line will return intact if center Jeff Zapalac doesn't get into med school this fall and it houses such talent as All-America tackle Jerry Sisemore, guards Travis Roach and Don Crosslin and tight end Rick Davis. Split ends Pat Kelly (last year's top receiver) and Jim Moore (injured after starting in the season opener) return. The defensive line, anchored by 6-5, 300-pound Robert Guevara, should be solid if replacements can be found at tackles. The linebacking and secondary work will be handled by battle veterans.

When new Texas A&M coach Emory Bellard left his post as offensive backfield mastermind at Texas, he took the Longhorn Wishbone with him and spent the spring installing it at Aggieland. What he has come up with is something called the Power Wishbone which will feature such bruising backs as Mark Green (6-3, 216), Brad Dusek (6-2, 215) and John Bounds (6-2, 210). Triggering it all will be quarterback Lex James who weathered a woeful beating as a sophomore starter two years ago and struggled through a junior year of injury and disillusionment. Up front the Aggies will be led by such standouts as tight end Homer May, tackles Buster Callaway and Ralph Sacra and guard Todd Christopher. The defensive line looks promising with the return of tackle Boice Best, middle guard Billy Wiebold and ends Max Bird and Kent Finley. How quickly the Aggies can become comfortable in their new style of attack will determine the success this season.

SMU's Mustangs, who had reverted to a ground attack last year after years of high flying, will return to a multiple-set offense which will feature the passing of new quarterback Keith Bobo. The ground game won't go unnoticed, however, with Alvin Maxson who gained 1,012 yards rushing last year, ready to romp again. Experienced Randy Goss returns at wingback and late season starter Rayford Clark will assume full command of the fullback duties. The big question, however, is whether the offensive line, totally void of experience at tackles, can hold up its end of the bargain. Bum Phillips, former defensive coordinator of the San Diego Chargers, spent the spring installing a 4-3 alignment and with seven starters back, including super safety Robert Popelka, the Mustangs could be hard to score against.

Billy Tohill, who assumed the head coaching job at TCU following the tragic death of Jim Pittman, saw his squad come on strong at the end of last season.

There is a healthy stock of veterans on hand but, alas, quarterback Steve Judy is gone. Trying to fill the shoes of the most productive TCU general since Sammy Baugh will be last year's back-up man, Kent Marshall. Late season starters Steve Patterson and Billy Sadler return at halfbacks but a replacement is needed at fullback. The forward wall is manned by veterans but the split ends are all graduated, leaving only Fred Pouncy as a qualified receiver. In addition to handling punt returns last fall, he caught 13 passes for 228 yards. The defense could be improved with the return of three men in the secondary, including Lyle Blackwood who averaged 31 yards on five interceptions last year, and a good supply of linebackers.

Texas Tech's offense, which floundered last year (scoring a touchdown or less in six of 11 games), should show a little more life this fall with the installation of a multiple-I attack. The quarterbacking picture is still foggy, however, as spring training ended with chief candidate Joe Barnes sidelined by a shoulder separation. Tailback Doug McCutcheon, the team's leading rusher last year, and fullback Mark Mosley return but there is still the need for outside speed to balance the attack. A receiving corps which includes Jeff Jobe, Andre Tillman, Ron Samford and Calvin James will get more attention. Standout noseguard Don Rives forms the foundation for the rebuilding job Tech faces defensively. Hardest to replace will be a graduated secondary which led the nation in pass defense last year.

Rice, too, has a new man at the throttle with Al Conover who has installed what he likes to refer to as the Hambone Offense. Translated, that means that the Owls will ham it up this fall, throwing caution to the wind with a wide-open, go-for-broke attack. Bruce Gadd is back at quarterback and has a good supply of swift receivers in Edwin Collins, Bubba Berg, Ron Arceneaux and Ed Lofton to go with tight end Gary Butler. Linebacker Rodrigo Barnes has been called a defense unto himself and will get help from experienced safety Bruce Henley. There is some talent in the trenches and if Conover can find help for Henley in the secondary the Hambone could get sufficient help from the defense.

The Baylor Bears again appear to be short of quality in numbers but there is a flow of new enthusiasm brought on by the arrival of head coach Grant Teaff. Among those who gained experience along with the bumps and bruises of a 1-9 season in '71 are linebacker Roger Goree, who ranks with the best in the conference, running back Godfrey White and defensive tackle Richard Mason. Randy Cavender and Chuck Gossett, both part-time starters during an endless quarterback search last year, return as does freshman whiz of a year ago, Robert Armstrong. There are numerous holes to be filled in the offensive line and much sorting to be done with a collection of untested defensive players.

Good things do indeed come in small packages so goes the watchword at Louisville where the Cardinals again reign as prime favorites to capture the Missouri Valley Conference title. Back on the launching pad is 5-5, 165-pound Howard Stephens who led the league in rushing last year with 1,429 yards. Rounding out a Mutt and Jeff scheme is MVC Player of the Year John Madeya, the 6-4, 207-pound quarterback who threw for 1,045 yards last year. Heading an experienced cast in the line is tight end Gary Barnes and guard John Kratsas. Defensively, linebacker Tom Jackson and halfback Joe Welch should shine.

Former Georgia assistant Fred Pancost moves into Spook Murphy's vacated chair at Memphis State and must perform a rebuilding job on the Tigers offense. Among the veterans scheduled to shoulder yoeman duties this fall are wide receiver Stan Davis, center-guard Tom Parker and junior defensive tackle Glenn Whittemore.

Drake coach Jack Wallace says returning quarterback Dennis Redmond, last year's leading passer and total offense producer, has as fine an arm as there is in the college game. He threw for 2,182 yards last year (averaging 169.9 in total offense) and has premier wide receiver Doug Winslow (56 catches, 964 yards, seven touchdowns) back to throw to. Much of the ground work will be handled by running back Jerry Heston. Heading the defensive crew will be All-MVC tackle Mike Samples.

After four brilliant years, Ron (Po) James is gone, leaving New Mexico State with school passing record holder Joe Pisarcick to lead the Aggies into their first season of MVC warfare.

Tulsa, which beat touted Arkansas last year and sent several pounds of prime beef off to the pro ranks, must fill a number of gaping holes. Todd Starks, the juco transfer who became an overnight celebrity by shooting down Arkansas, is back after throwing for 1,687 yards last year as is second team all-conference defensive *(Continued on page 76)*

How they'll finish

Big 8

Colorado, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Iowa State, Kansas State, Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma State.

SWC

Arkansas, Texas, Texas A & M, SMU, TCU, Texas Tech, Rice, Baylor.

MVC

Louisville, Memphis State, Drake, New Mexico State, Tulsa, West Texas State, North Texas State.

Independents

Winners: Houston

NFC East:

Cowboys Brace For 'Ultimate of the Moment'...and the Old Folks

When the Dallas Cowboys first played for the NFL championship, way back in 1966, Forrest Gregg of the victorious Green Bay Packers made a postgame prediction: "If the Cowboys ever win this thing once, then they'll go on and win . . . and win . . . and win."

In one of the ironies of fate, five long seasons later, Gregg was. backup tackle on the Cowboy team that *did . . . finally . . . win it.*Gregg has moved on now, as an assistant coach at San Diego, but he leaves one postscript behind him. "All they ever needed," he says of his erstwhile team, "was to put one over and get the feel of really being a champion. I don't know what can stop them now."

Redskin QB Bill Kilmer

Their National Conference East Division rivals may well be asking that same question this season, as a Dallas team stronger in every way than the one that rode a 10-game win streak to the Super Bowl title begins its defense of the crown.

Perhaps Dallas coach Tom Landry has the only gainsaying answer: "You have got to prove you are the world's champion and conduct yourself that way. Every week is Super Bowl week when you play as champion. Our people have to pace themselves to the Ultimate of the Moment."

The Cowboys, in making it to the Super game two years in a row, never turned it on until their backs were to the wall and they were facing elimination from their own East Division race.

"You can do this once," says Landry, "even two times, but you can't expect to pull it off three times in a row coming from behind."

A new and emerging leader of the Cowboys, the first they've had since Don Meredith retired, is quarterback Roger Staubach, and he sees it as his role to prevent the early-season sag of the past two years. "When we lose a game, we have to make sure it's because the other team played a great game, not because we played a bad one. And if we lose one, then it's the quarterback's job to see we don't get in a rut. If you lose back to back, your confidence starts to go, and you begin questioning everything. I can't let that happen."

Staubach, who had to battle through seven games before being declared the Cowboys' Number 1, ended also as the NFL's Number 1 passer, and the MVP of the Super Bowl. Even in the summertime you can tell this is a different Staubach than Dallas has ever known before. "I'm not really established yet," he says, "certainly not to my own satisfaction. That's what I plan to accomplish this season."

Presuming that star running back Duane Thomas will this time be in action early — or nonmutinously, at least — signed to a new pay scale, the Cowboys can be fast out of the starting gate. Thomas will not be moving from halfback to fullback this season, as the health of Calvin

Charley Taylor, injured All-Pro

Hill fluctuates. Landry has stationed him at halfback, period, with Walt Garrison slotted at fullback. Hill will back up Thomas, if not challenge him, and top rookie Bill Thomas of Boston College will challenge Garrison.

Lance Alworth, who spent a season getting timed with Dallas throwers and then caught the big Super touchdown, should be a great threat this time from the opening gun, pairing with Bobby Hayes.

The tight ends, Mike Ditka and Billy Truax, will again be owned the job in the Super Bowl stretch.

Several challenges will be going on defensively, mainly where Pat Toomay wishes to take away George Andrie's job. The Dallas team is loaded with depth on this platoon — with linemen Bill Gregory and Tody Smith, cornerbacks Ike Thomas and Mark Washington, linebackers D.D. Lewis and Tom Stincic, and safety Charley Waters all capable of starting at the club's championship level. Two other great challenges will come in the kicking corps, where Vienna's

tory came at a time when both Washington runners, Larry Brown and Charley Harraway, were hobbled. Bill Kilmer was the quarterback instead of Sonny Jurgensen, and Washington also went through most of the season without split end Charley Taylor and tight end Jerry Smith. "Who else could lose that many all-pros and still stay in the race?" said George Allen, never known as a shrinking violet when assessing his own team.

Allen was wisely recognized as "coach of the year" for his job in converting a "lousy" (George's

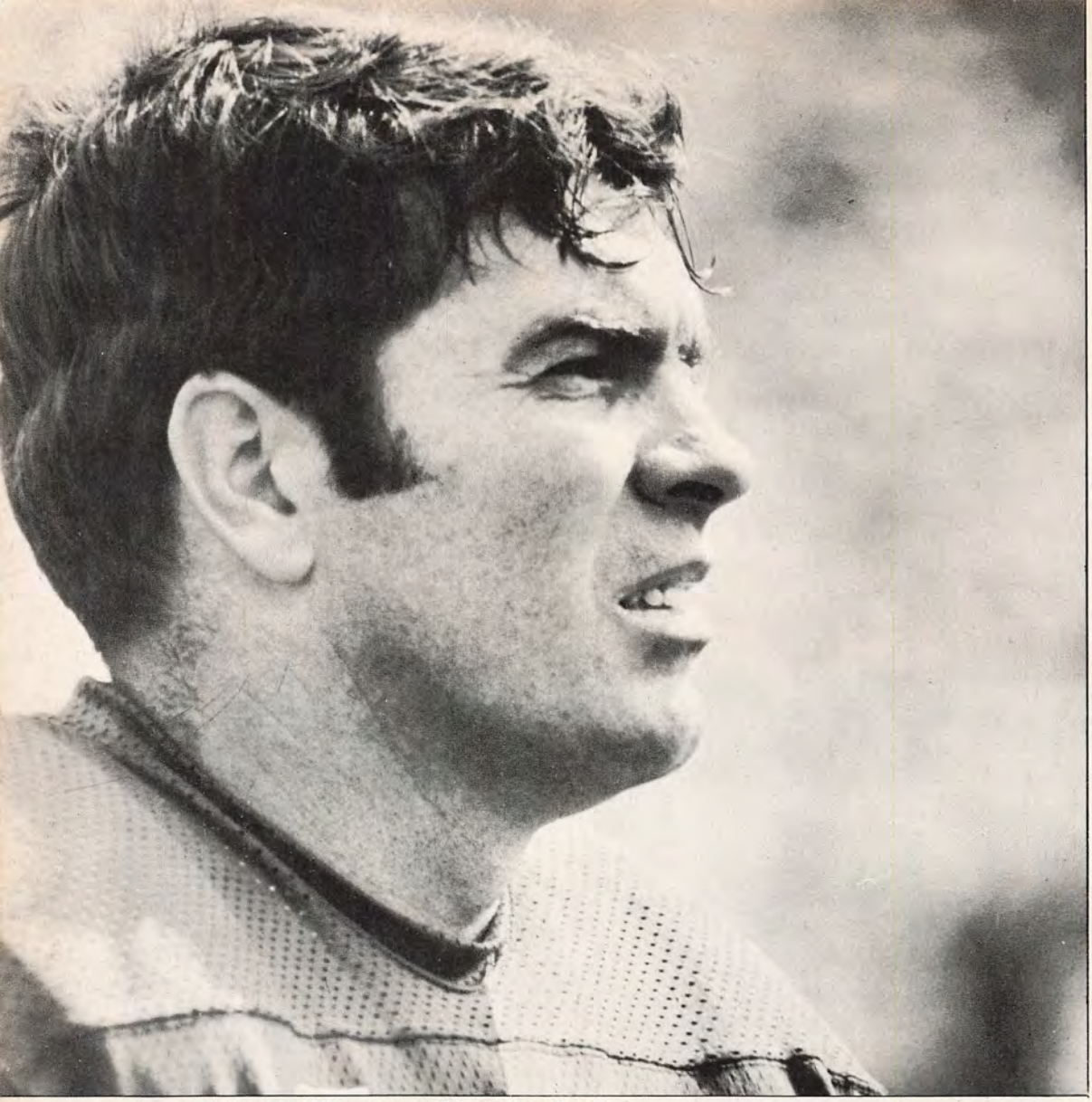
This was Tom Landry's first Super ride. Was it the first of a string?

shuttled as Landry continues to call Staubach's play's. The offensive line is solid at four positions — Dave Manders, guards John Niland and Blaine Nye, and tackle Rayfield Wright — and not too bad off at the fifth spot, where left tackle Ralph Neely returns from a broken leg injury to face a challenge from young Bob Asher. Veteran Tony Liscio

Toni Fritsch tries to oust Mike Clark and NCAA punt champ Marv Bateman battles Ron Widby.

Before they can sail clear into the playoffs, however, Dallas must turn back the threat of the "old folks" at Washington. In their showdown game last November, the Cowboys shut out the Redskins, 13-0, but the vic-

word) defense into a remarkable unit. The fellow to watch in the front four is young Manny Sistrunk, a relative neophyte whose best years are ahead of him. The major weakness in the Redskin stopper platoon is at cornerback where Mike Bass and Pat Fischer survive mainly through the wisdom and talents of those around them — notably



Long an Eagle, once a Viking, now a NY Giant: Norm Snead

Donny Anderson moves to St. Louis

linebackers Chris Hanburger and Jack Pardee and safeties John Petitbon and Brig Owens. When an opponent, however, manages to force Petitbon into man-to-man coverage, the defense is also in trouble.

Still, it shakes the imagination to wonder how Sonny Jurgensen could function through the help of a now-respectable defense, if he also had the help of Taylor and Smith, with newcomer Roy Jefferson as the other wide receiver.

If there is a feeling that Allen continues to stake everything on one roll of the dice — *this year's* — the Philadelphia Eagles are building the challenger of the future for Dallas. Though quarterback Pete Liske completed 53.2 per cent of his passes last season, at times he was horrible, especially in throwing interceptions. The Eagles will be looking for rookie quarterback John Reaves (Florida) to take over immediately, if not sooner. They can hope that Reaves will perform as well as, say, Jim Plunkett or Archie Manning did in their first seasons.

Coach Ed (Hair Is Nowhere) Khayat booted his club home with a 6-2-1 record over the last nine games last season, mainly by instilling some pride in the defense built around Mad Tim Rossovich at middle linebacker. A great plus was the final stationing of Leroy Keyes, healthy at last, at strong safety. Operating with All-NFL free safety Bill Bradley, Keyes gives the Eagles perhaps the best deep pair in football, next to the Baltimore duo of Volk and Logan.

Ron "Po" James, a fancy speedster from New Mexico State, is the outside running potential the Eagles have been needing. A maturing offensive line, and good receivers in Harold Jackson, Ben Hawkins,

Giants halfback Ron Johnson

Cards' Mel Gray gets a TD hug from Dan Dierdorf

Gary Ballman and 6-8 Harold Carmichael are just waiting for some operator to turn the key and make it go. Maybe Reaves is the one.

Coach Bob Hollway at St. Louis has changed just about everything except the bird on the Cardinal helmet. He discarded running backs MacArthur Lane and Cid Edwards and got Donny Anderson and Leon Burns instead. He swapped away Dave Williams and John Gilliam and got Walker Gillette to pair with Mel Gray at wide receiver, and in the mixup also acquired quarterback Gary Cuozzo, the dentist who can threaten to pull his blockers' teeth when they make a mistake. But the Cards have a murderous schedule, and no pass rush — which makes for a long season.

All the same, it will not be a whit longer than the one facing the Giants, who traded away most of their offense in Tarkenton and most of their defense in Fred Dryer. Now Norm Snead and Randy Johnson are singing a duet: 'I didn't come to New York to sit on the bench."

Larry Jacobson, a blue chipper out of Nebraska's championship team, should be an instant starter in the defensive line, but top choice Eldridge Small of Texas A&I is a defensive back slated for wide receiver. Last year's top pick, Rocky Thompson was tried at both wide receiver and running back. As they say at Mike Manuche's, "So what else is new?"

How They'll Finish

NFC East

	W	L	T
Dallas	12	2	0
Washington	9	5	0
Philadelphia	7	7	0
St. Louis	5	9	0
New York	3	10	1

NFC Central

Now that Fran's a Viking, can the Lions hope to compete?

The Minnesota Vikings have come up empty on offense the last two years in their playoff losses, right out of the starting gate, to first San Francisco and then to the Dallas Cowboys. The famed Viking defense never collapsed — the offense just gave up such ridiculous field position, it couldn't cope.

You can't say that a hardhead never learns, because Minnesota this off-season traded for a whale of an offense in the person of Fran Tarkenton.

Gone are quarterbacks Norm Snead (to NY for Tarkenton) and Gary Cuozzo (to St. Louis for John Gilliam) and that's all right, because when the chips were down against Dallas coach Bud Grant ignored both of those fellows and started Bob Lee. Lee he kept.

But now it boggles the mind to consider what Tarkenton can do with a team that has a defense, in fact one of the great defenses in the NFL, the great Purple People Eaters. Tarkenton has a very simplistic view of moving the football. "If the linebackers drop off to help cover the wide receivers," he says, "I throw to my running backs. If the linebackers come up to cover my running backs, I throw to my wide receivers. Running plays? I let my center call all the running plays — he knows how the blocking is going up front."

Now, however, Tarkenton is aligned with the Iceman, Grant, and it remains to be seen if perfection can be consummated out of this combination. Says Tom Landry, with a wary eye on a possible blockade point to his Cowboys' return path to the Super Bowl: "If Grant turns Tarkenton loose, and lets him open up the offense, he can take them all the way to the title."

Young Tarkenton in Viking suit

This is perhaps an hubristic response to Grant's remark last Christmas Eve, the day before the playoff loss to the Cowboys, when a newsman asked him if another playoff loss would lead him to change his conservative offensive theories. "If I had the material Dallas has," Grant bit back, "I'd change my offense tomorrow."

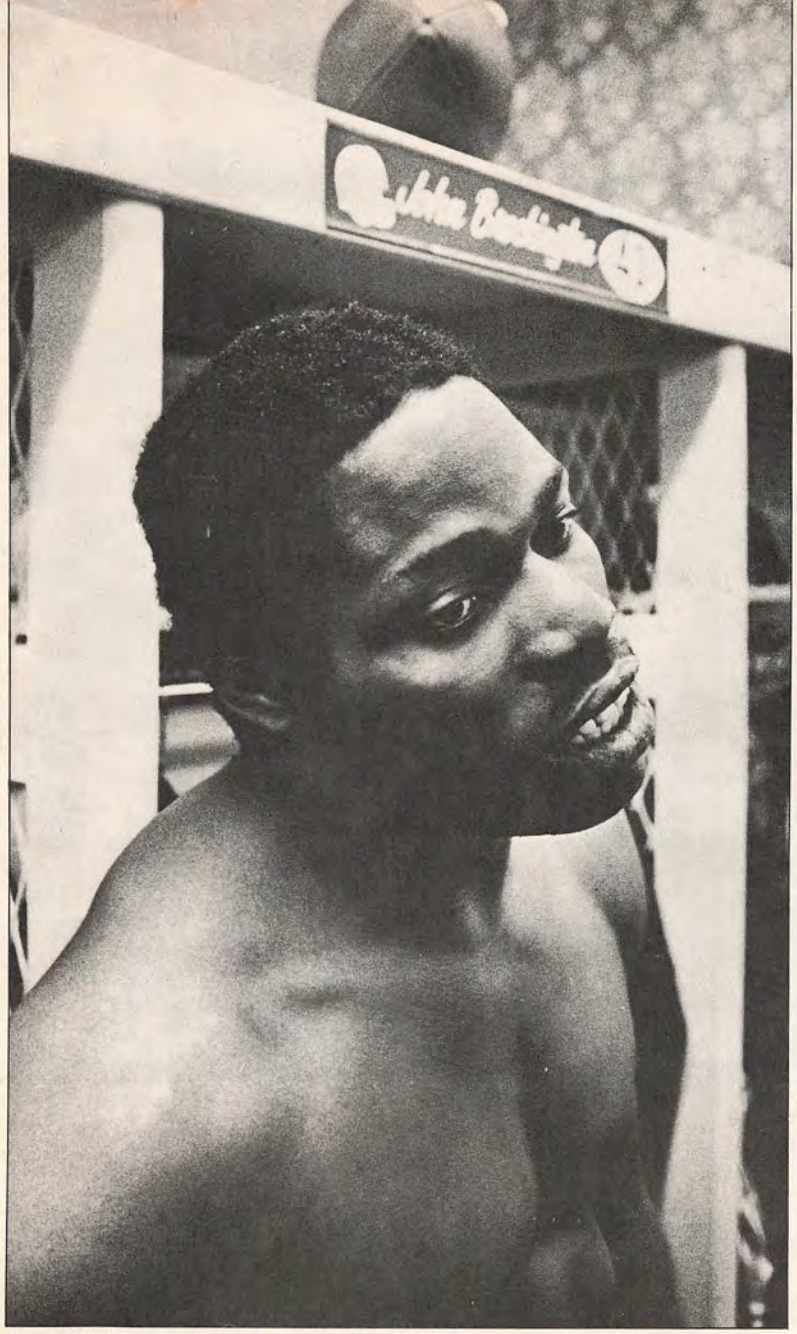
Well, in the offseason, Grant evidently decided to go out and get the Vikings some of what the Cowboys had. He had to swap off leading Viking receiver Bob Grim for Tarkenton, but he got Gilliam, a catcher with greater speed than Grim, for Cuozzo. Now with a healthy Gene Washington back in action, he has a pair of wide receivers to match the best.

The Vikings are powered by the great Alan Page at tackle, and the nearly-as-great Carl Eller at defensive end. The other members of the Viking front four, Gary Larsen and Jim Marshall, are powers in their own right. The quartet is so powerful in fact that a major loss on defense, the injury to middle linebacker Lon Warwick, was not fatal until the crucial contest with Dallas in the playoffs. For insurance at linebacker, the Vikings drafted in the first round a potential Meg, Jeff Siemon of Stanford.

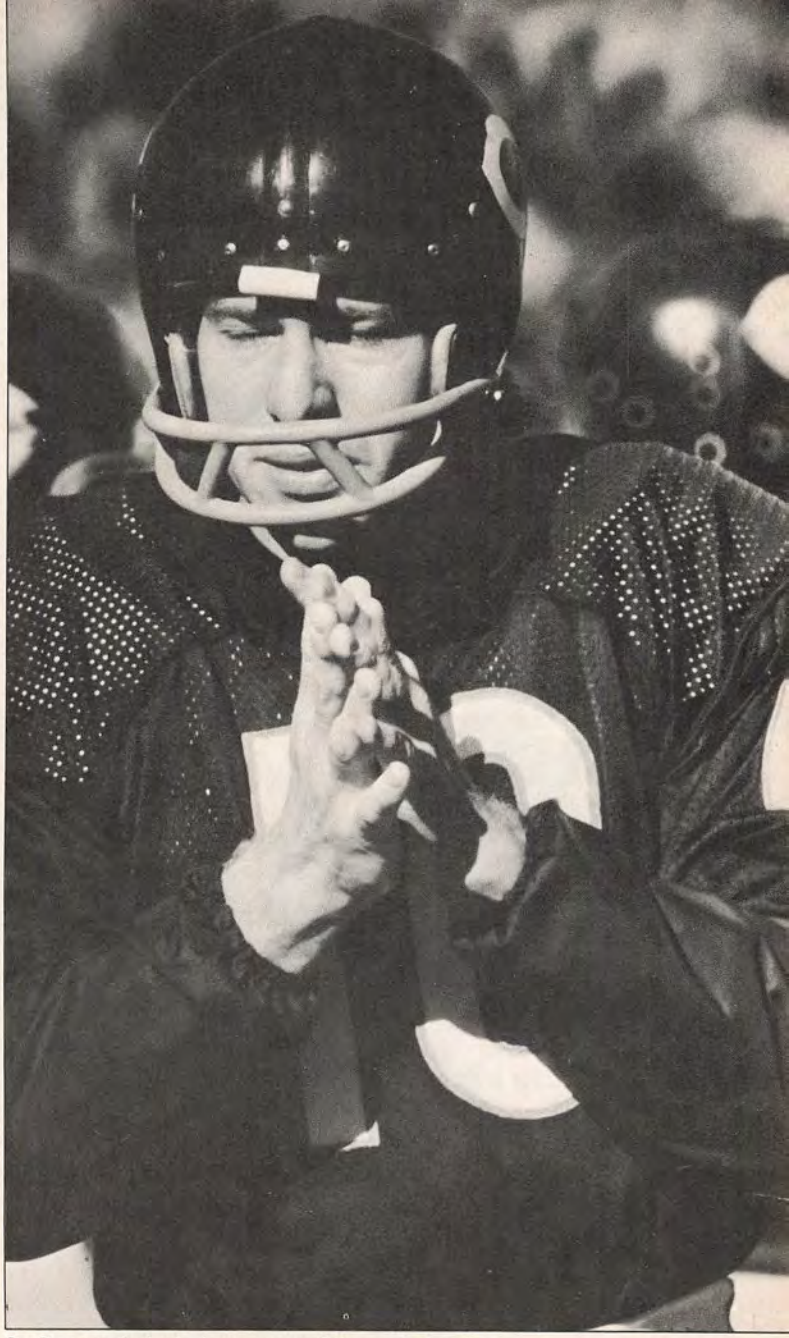
The only obvious lack on the Viking squad is (1) an outside running threat, which Heisman runner-up Ed Marinaro can't supply, and (2) solid cornerback play. Ed Sharockman, the wily veteran, was victimized on two vital plays which knocked the Vikings out of the playoffs. The other starting corner, Charlie West, has been pressed into service at safety.

But the Vikings have been knocking at the door so loudly

Glowering Bear, Mr. Butkus



The 1,000-yard man, Green Bay's John Brockington



Do Bear quarterbacks have a prayer? Yes, says Douglass

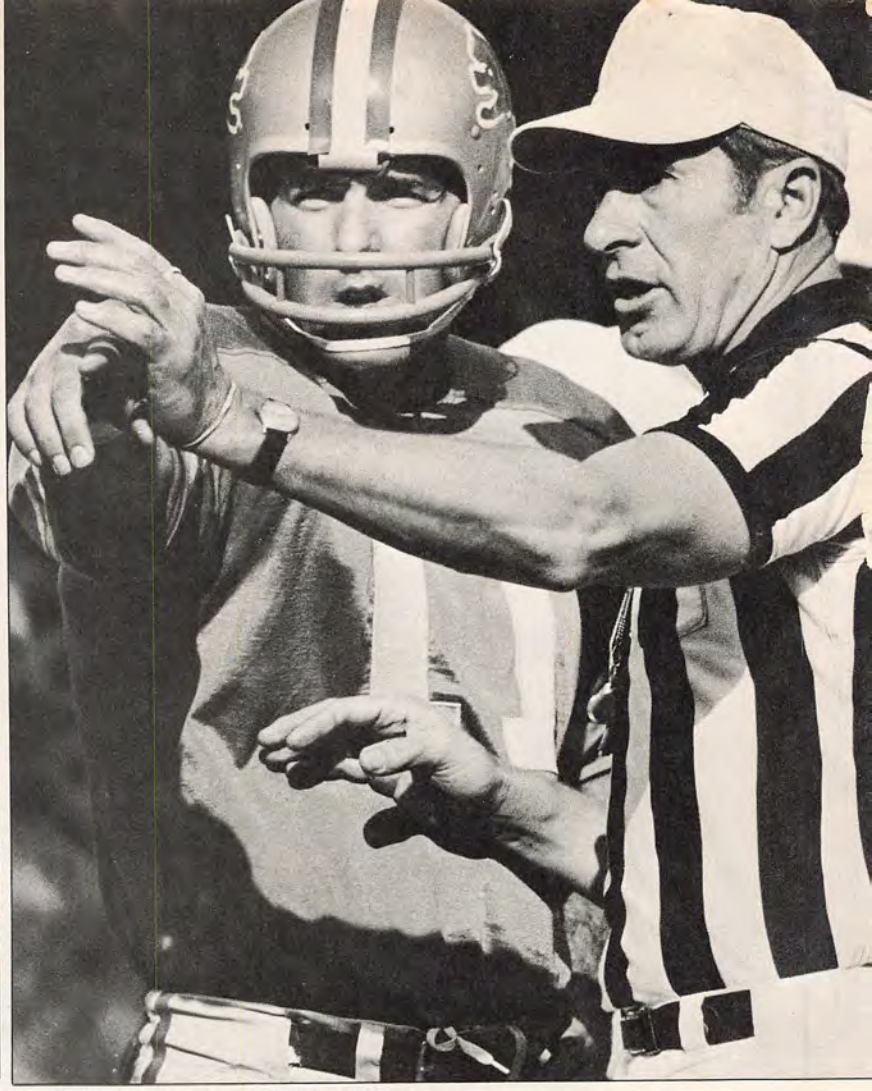
the past three years — victimized also, lest we forget, by a nothing offense in the Super Bowl loss to Kansas City — that they seem very likely to crash through with the help of Tarkenton, whose trade originally brought them three current starters in the Viking offense.

The Detroit Lions have so much farther to come, because they do not have the necessary ingredient for a champion — the number one ingredient — a defensive line that can mount a pass rush. For long weeks of last season, the Lions were a title contender, though the line only trapped opposing quarterbacks 18 times through 14 games. Only the lowly NY Giants could equal that futility.

Detroit has a thunderous offense, with $100,000 quarterback Greg Landry throwing to All-NFL tight end Charley Sanders, and with surprising Heisman-ex Steve Owens becoming the first Detroit player ever to gain more than 1,000 yards. But the Lion defense, which was mighty back when Alex Karras could put his body where his mouth is, let the whole squad down.

Coach Joe Schmidt, a proud defender himself in his prime, has tried to rectify this slide the past two draft years, choosing tackle Bob Bell and then picking Colorado's Herb Orvis in successive first rounds. Orvis, a

One Heisman Trophy worth 1,000 yards: Steve Owens



Lion leader Greg Landry checks down, distance

defensive end, will be an instant starter in the Detroit pass rush. Every other quality on the team is just waiting for that development to become a viable Super Bowl threat.

Chicago is still having quarterback trouble, as it has had since owner George Halas shuffled Sid Luckman, Johnny Lujack, Bobby Layne and George Blanda and didn't know what to do. (Even when the Bears won the '63 title with Billy Wade, they had quarterback trouble.) Chicago was 13th in the 13-team National Conference on offense last season, as Jack Concannon, Bobby Douglass and Kent Nix handled throwing chores.

New coach Abe Gibron will probably opt for southpaw Douglass, the promise of youth, though Concannon is the only leader and the only one who can complete more than 50 per cent of his passes. Help from a revitalized halfback, Cyril Pinder (healthy at last), and from top draft choice Houston Antoine at offensive tackle could boost the Bear attack, and allow a defense led by the great Dick Butkus to win more games for Chicago. But don't count on it.

Green Bay has fallen back to the cellar days of pre-Lombardi and second-year coach Dan Devine has reacted by getting rid of "the guys who don't buy me," one of whom was Donny Anderson, traded away to St. Louis for MacArthur Lane. Lane pairs nicely with rookie of the year John Brockington, but there is no one to throw the ball except second-year quarterback Scott Hunter, and precious few people left to stop anyone's offense.

It seems definitely like Fran's year in the NFC Central.

How They'll Finish

NFC Central

	W	L	T
Minnesota	10	3	1
Detroit	9	5	0
Chicago	4	9	1
Green Bay	2	10	2

NFC West

Tommy Prothro Bids a Grand Slam For Rams, Trumping Brodie

They laughed when Tommy Prothro had his LA Rams punt on third down. But Dick Nolan at San Francisco wasn't one of the people enjoying the yocks. Prothro's Rams just whipped the whey out of the (on-paper) superior 49ers and were hanging in there for the division title until the last game was played in the far-west time zone of the NFL season.

Prothro accomplished this prodigious feat with two rookies at vulnerable positions on defense (safety Dave Elmendorf and corner linebacker Isiah Robertson) in place of a veteran corps swapped away to the Trader Vic of the NFL, George Allen at Washington. Meanwhile, Prothro played chess with his players.

The brilliant, myopic bridge player — who has a higher IQ than any of his NFL coaching brethren — seems to have been waiting all these years for just this coaching opportunity. Take the case of Willie Ellison, a 1,000-yard rusher last year for the Rams. When the ink on Prothro's contract was barely dry, he was relayed the message about Ellison's shortcomings, according to Allen. Allen's summation had been concise: He tapped his temple. Translation: Willie was a dumbo. Prothro sympathized. "I had a flashy guy like that at Oregon State," he said. "And he could win a game for you ... and also lose a couple."

But Ellison was somehow not a dumbo for Prothro — who listened to people such as tackle Walt Cowan who used to plead with Allen to start Ellison — and the benched Ram set a record of 247 yards rushing in one game.

Prothro affects a low-profile in hours-worked, pro coaches division, but he continues to steal his brothers blind in front-office moves. It was a fraternal thing when he got Phil Olsen away from New England to match great brother Merlin at tackle, but then he doubled the crime by getting defensive end Fred Dryer also from the Patriots. The latter maneuver probably worked the Rams into the division championship.

About four years ago, when Deacon Jones was an unreasonable holdout (a long story that involves a bonus paid to him by the club at the time of the merger war), then general manager Elroy Hirsch said, "I'd love to hold onto Deacon for one more year and trade him, because when his quickness is gone, he's gone." Prothro was a year late, but sooner late than never, when he shipped the Deacon out to San Diego in the other conference.

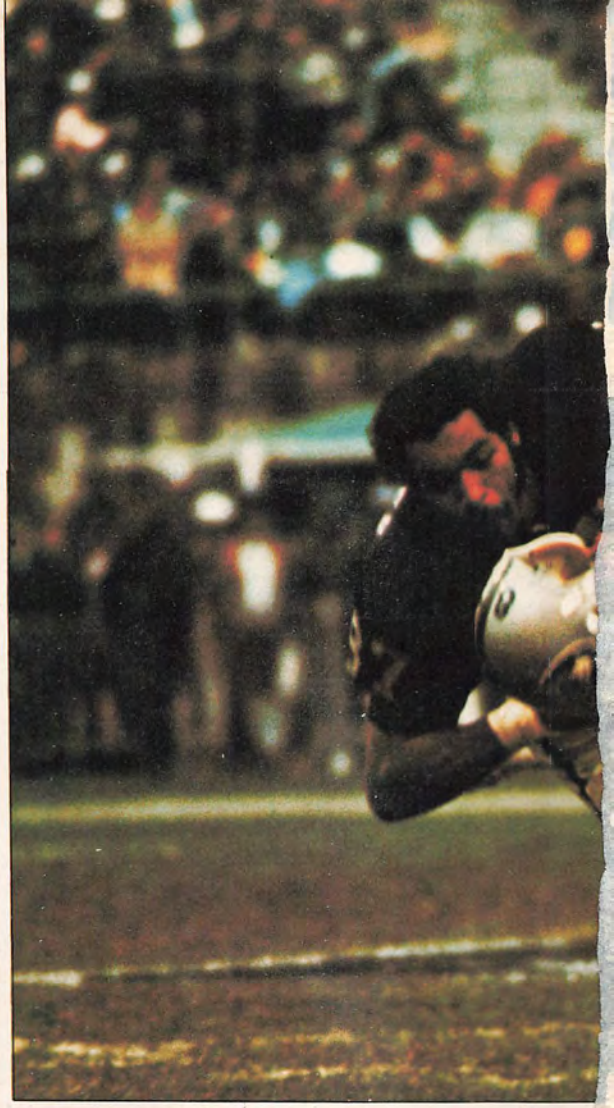
The exchange has made operable again the original title of the Fearsome Foursome. Hereafter it will be known as the firm of BDO & O — Bacon, Dryer, Olsen & Olsen.

San Francisco is the defending division champ — in fact, a two-year runner-up for the conference title — but seems to be in the throes of bad vibrations. Other teams have had one of their top stars wreck a knee in a basketball game (defensive end Cedrick Hardman, in this case) but few have had their 37-year-old quarterback throw 24 interceptions. After the conference title loss (14-3) at Dallas, when Brodie had thrown a ball to defensive end George Andrie, Cowboy coach Tom Landry said, "I'm afraid Dick (Nolan) will feel that Brodie let him down."

If Brodie is his old reliable self, of course, it will be no contest. The 49ers have improved their pass-catching corps with the addition of Auburn star Terry Beasley to match the sparkling performance of Gene Washington at the other wide

Saint quarterback Edd Harggett flees Isiah Robertson

Oohh, that smarts! Oakland's Horace Jones blasts John Hadl



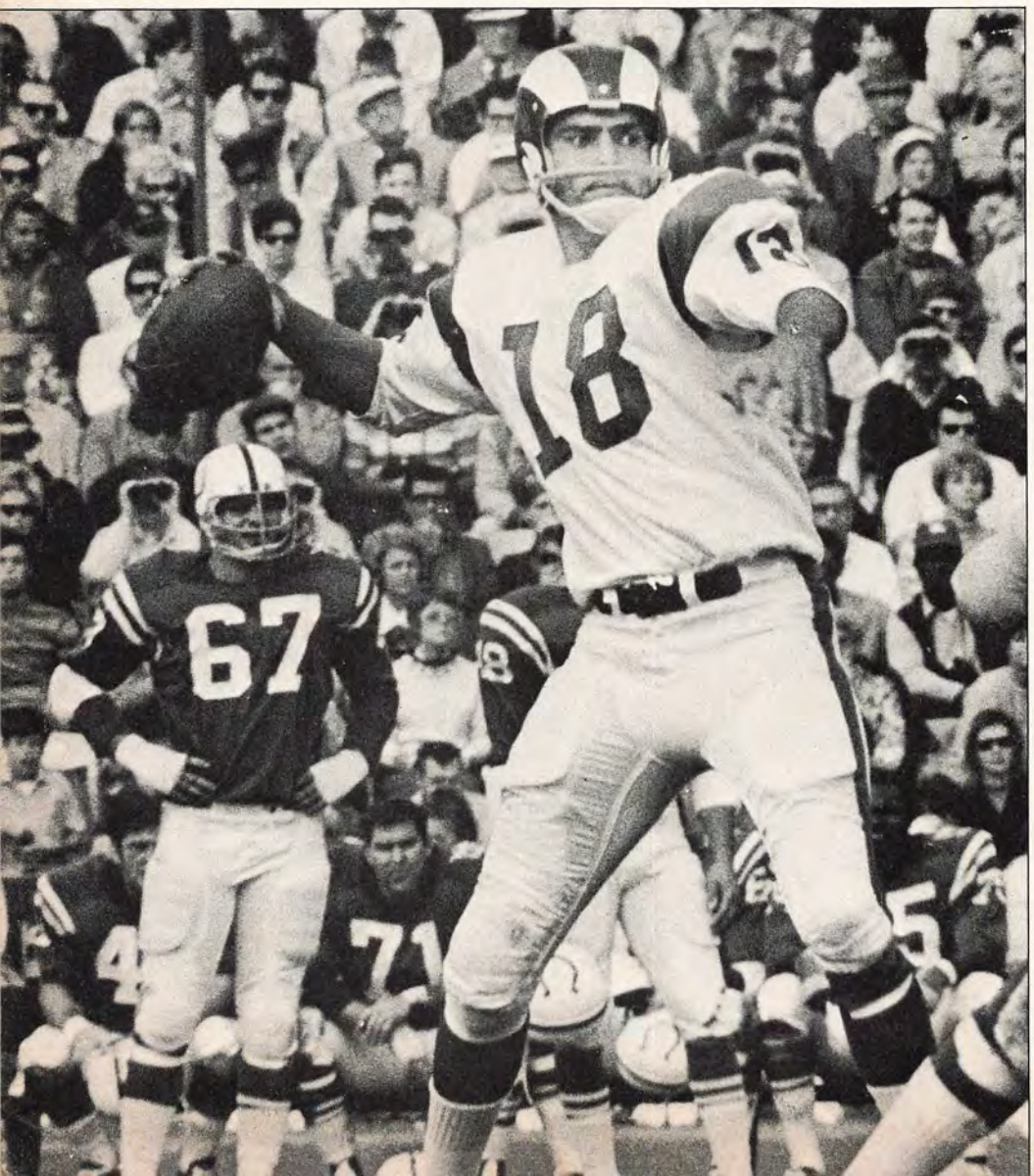
If I fake left, will he go right? Saints' returner Virgil Robinson faces off with Jimmy Johnson

Oakland's Ray Chester receives typical greeting from Colts' Mike Curtis

Pair of Purple People Eaters:
Alan Page and Jim Marshall

Saints' Abramowicz caught 37

Willie Ellison, off the bench



receiver post. Also, running back Vic Washington, a rookie last season out of the Canadian League, should be more of a threat as a game-breaker. He did well enough at that as a freshman, with 811 yards for a 4.2 average per carry.

The 49ers are solid everywhere else, barring the peculiar failure of Brodie and the odd instances of their futility against the Rams.

Should hard times fall upon either of the front runners, there is a third team in the division which can zoom right into the Super Bowl with a plethora of breaks, some of them of their own making. The Atlanta Falcons have built up to a respectable challenger, with their first winning record, a proud 7-6-1. That's the sort of platform from which many a champion has leaped.

The vastly underrated Bob Berry, "only" a six-foot quarterback, completed 60 per cent of his tosses last season, and that will do until another Norm Van Brocklin comes along. The Falcons drafted Heisman Trophy winner Pat Sullivan of Auburn in the second round, sort of in the fashion that you sign up the Grambling band for halftime.

Rams' Roman Gabriel

49er tight end Ted Kwalick

The tough Texan, Tommy Nobis, returns to Falcons

The Number 1 they took was the gifted Clarence Ellis of Notre Dame, who can more or less declare his preference for position in the Atlanta defensive backfield. Free safety is his spot.

What matters most to the Falcon defense, however, is the return to fulltime havoc of Tommy Nobis, the knee-troubled middle linebacker. Atlanta already has several standouts on defense, including end Claude Humphrey, and a tight end (Jim Mitchell) who challenges Detroit's Charley Sanders for supremacy at the position.

The virulent New Orleans Saints must continue to bring up the rear of this division, but dangerously. There is something about this team, possibly emanating from its fans, that proves the "given Sunday" slogan of the NFL true time and again.

The Saints have Archie Manning going for them, the quickest arm in football next to Joe Willie, and they have been stealing from the Cowboys' overflow — in the persons of split end Margene Adkins, fullback Joe Williams and halfback Jim Ford.

Roberts, as Tom Fears before him, has been able to get his proud defense to perform above expectations Sunday after Sunday. There is still no defensive line, but Saints fans have a Mardi Gras every Sunday anyway.

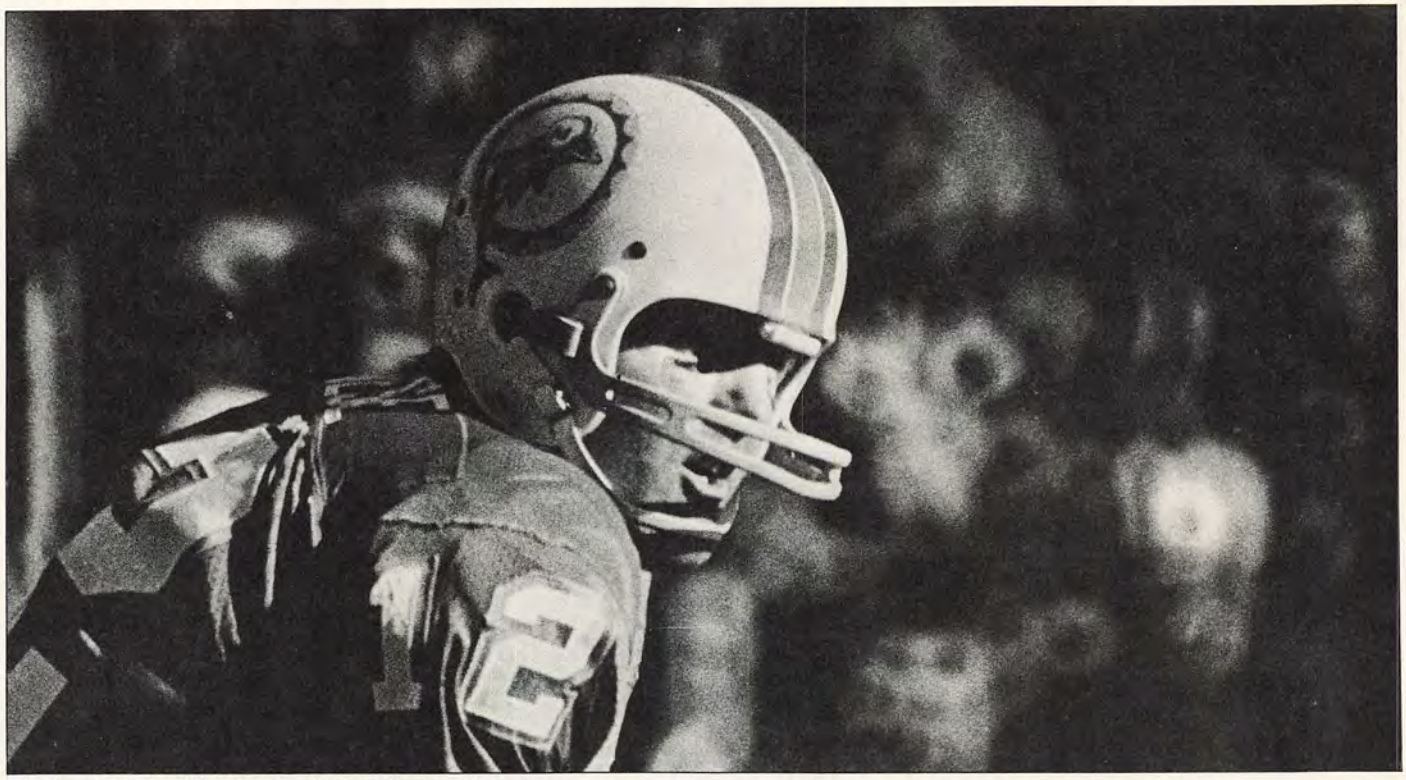
How They'll Finish

NFC West

	W	L	T
Los Angeles	9	4	1
San Francisco	9	5	0
Atlanta	8	5	1
New Orleans	4	9	1

AFC East

Gifted Q'backs—Coming, Going and Fading—Color the Race Gray



Miami pass master Bob Griese destined for the playoffs again

"Gamesmanship," a phrase originated by an Englishman to identify a process by which you defeat an opponent before the issue is ever joined, was never brought to its fullest flower until Joe Willie Namath squired Raquel Welch to the Academy Award ceremonies.

How are Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid (Miami's Larry Csonka and Jim Kiick) going to top that? Easy. Csonka and Kiick have healthy knees.

Such are the questionable and intangible qualities of the East Division race in the American Conference, where the old Caesar, John Unitas, may be forced to preside over a crumbling empire of his own futility.

This division is likely to provide the most exciting, upset-ridden competition of the entire league — because there are three sound and talented quarterbacks (aside from Namath and Unitas) plying their trade within it. Dennis Shaw at Buffalo, Jim Plunkett at New England and of course the conference's Number 1 passer of 1971, Bob Griese at Miami.

You can almost be convinced, despite Griese's excellence and the help he got from Paul Warfield and Larry Little, that the Dolphins did it last year with mirrors. They were so inexperienced everywhere! Before the Super Bowl game, Dallas linebacker Dave Edwards said, "We know what they are going to do from every formation, because they aren't old enough to change their offense for one game. They got to do what they do."

Perhaps the other AFC East teams have ordered and dissected the Super Bowl films so that they, too, know how to knock middle linebacker Nick Buoniconti on his conti. Perhaps also there is more to it than that, such as having John Niland and Rayfield Wright going for you.

In retrospect, the Dolphins got there through the drive of a great coach, Don Shula, a winner wherever he goes, and Shula has wisely decided to shore up his weakest point, a defense that did not press the passer. Therefore, he drafted Notre Damer Mike Kadish for one defensive tackle spot. But Miami will keep it close again this season by failure to use its tight end, because Marv Fleming is a blocker and no catcher.

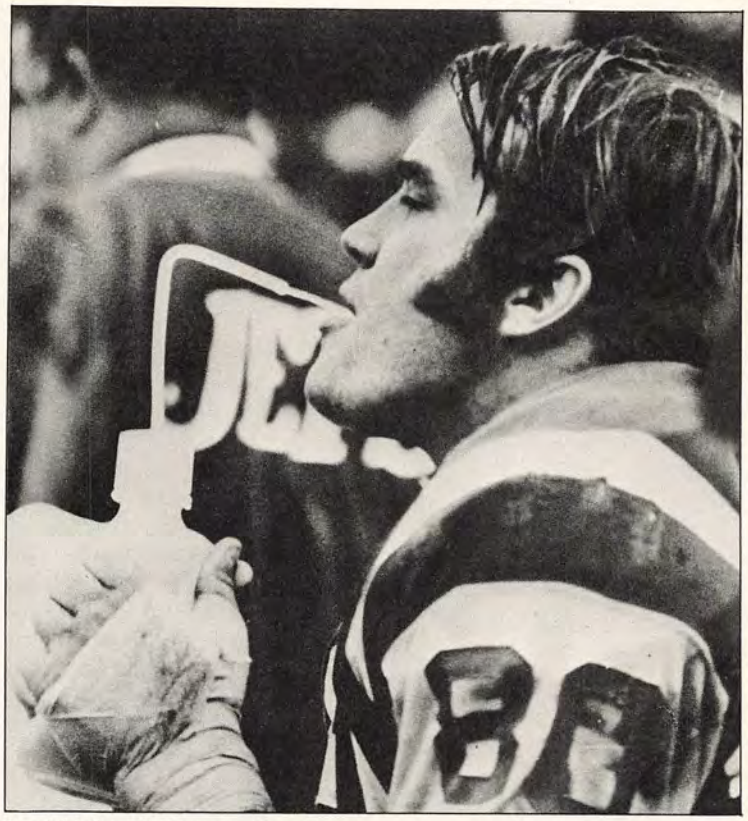
The Dolphins have the AFC's top passer in the relatively young Griese, but chose to back him up,

for the $100 waiver price, with veteran Earl Morrall — who, like Griese, was a Super Bowl loser but then was later a Super Bowl winner.

The Dolphins had the greatest running attack last year in their own league, and then Dallas showed its deficiencies outside by holding Csonka and Kiick to 40 yards each in the Super test. Mercury Morris fumed on the sidelines, because he was the only Miami outside running threat and was not used, a weapon Shula is not likely to ignore this time.

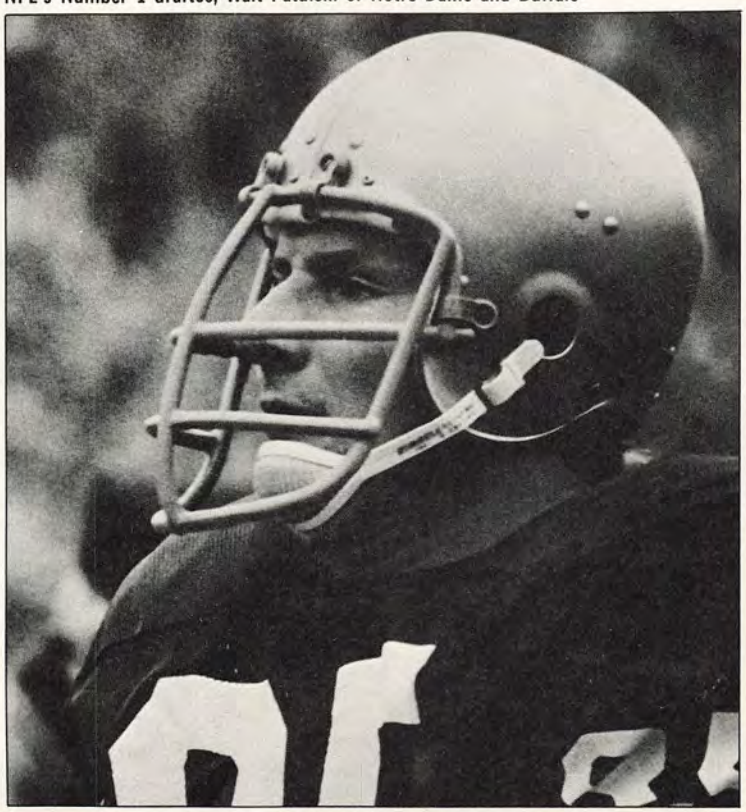
Baltimore can win the whole thing, without an Alka Seltzer or a great quarterback, simply because it has a great defense, led by maturing Bubba Smith at defensive end, Mike Curtis at middle linebacker and All-NFL Ted Hendricks at one outside linebacker, plus All-NFL safety Rick Volk. The entire Colt defense is respected, and when Norm Bulaich and Tom Matte are going as ball-carriers the Colts may be able to survive without the old brilliance contributed by Unitas. Rookie Lydell Mitchell, a tough runner in the mold of Matte, at least adds depth to the Baltimore running attack. But the Colts are kidding themselves if they think they can rely on the midget bowling ball, Don Nottingham, as a championship ballplayer. Those little guys will get you in trouble every time — as Nottingham did when the chips were on the line on fourth down against Miami.

Everything the Jets have going for them depends on the durability of Joe Namath — and the whims of Matt Snell, a running back who also has a history of injury. But there is also some suspense about the recovery from injuries of defensive linemen John Elliott and Gerry Philbin, plus linebacker Al Atkinson. Michigan rookie linebacker Mike Taylor, the club's second first-round draft choice, should break into the starting lineup. Jerome Barkum, a tight end, was picked before Taylor and *(Continued on page 91)*



The Jets' Jim Elliott comes off an injury

NFL's Number 1 draftee, Walt Patulski of Notre Dame and Buffalo



YEAR FOR LANIER

Chiefs' Heap Big Linebacker Rules Pre-Season All-NFL

There are four middle linebackers of unusual ability in the National Football League, reading in no particular order from Mike Curtis to Dick Butkus to Tommy Nobis to Willie Lanier, and they offer opponents a Hobson's Choice something like the dilemma facing a would-be suicide — gun, knife, pills or elevator shaft. The end result is the same, and none of the ways to go is pleasant.

But never are all things intrinsically equal, and especially in a competitive environment like the NFL, so there must be a "Best," and so at last there has come the recognition for the "nobody" from Morgan State, the fellow who is shorter than a breadbasket and larger than a ton, Mr. Willie Lanier.

Lanier (6-1, 245) has had much propaganda of one sort or another to overcome. Aside from his "little college" background, though that little college also produced Leroy Kelly, there

Two MVP's face to face: Staubach fires over Page

THE 24 BEST OF THE BEST

OFFENSE: Backs — Roger Staubach of Dallas, Floyd Little of Denver, Duane Thomas of Dallas. Linemen — Jim Tyrer of Kansas City, John Niland of Dallas, Forrest Blue of San Francisco, Larry Little of Miami, Rayfield Wright of Dallas. Receivers — Charles Sanders of Detroit, Paul Warfield of Miami, Otis Taylor of Kansas City.

DEFENSE: Linemen — Carl Eller of Minnesota, Bob Lilly of Dallas, Alan Page of Minnesota, Rich Jackson of Denver. Linebackers — Willie Lanier of Kansas City, Ted Hendricks of Baltimore, Bobby Bell of Kansas City. Defensive backs — Mel Renfro of Dallas, Jimmy Johnson of San Francisco, Bill Bradley of Philadelphia, Rick Volk of Baltimore.

KICKERS: Placement — Jan Stenerud of Kansas City. Punter — Jerrell Wilson of Kansas City.

were the All-America reputations of Butkus and Nobis, and their highly-publicized high finances at contract time. Further, there was the swaggering appeal of Curtis — you know, you have to be strong to film a Vitalis commercial on the beach with a broad and still retain your respect as a Meg (the pro's term for middle backer).

Bit by bit, however, or possibly chunk by chunk, the guy the Chiefs call "Honey Bear" has blasted his way to the top. You can spot it by a process of prejudiced elimination. "When our guy (Nobis) is right," says Atlanta's crusty Norm Van Brocklin, "nobody can touch him, but that guy at Kansas City is close."

"Curtis is the best," maintains a Baltimore official, "and hitting right with him is Lanier."

"Butkus is a good friend of mine," says Dallas quarterback Craig Morton, a brainy fellow who knows how to select his friends with care, "but Willie Lanier is the best middle linebacker I've ever played against."

And thus has it come to be the Year for Lanier, the year when the Chief of the Chiefs gets recognized as the victor of violence at the most violent position in a game celebrated for its violence. Lanier is the choice as

Bob Lilly moves to cut down Otis Taylor

1972 Most Valuable Player, a handy successor to the breakthrough made by the defensive platoons last season in the near-unanimous acclaim for Minnesota's Alan Page.

"It's about time," says an admittedly-subjective Hank Stram, super Chief. "Willie's the best without question, and I'll tell you why. You always have to start with the physical — the size and the speed, and he has both. But what makes him a great player is his attitude, his intelligence. He's a leader, one of our co-captains, and he fits the middle-linebacker personality you seek. In fact, he might fill it a little too strong — Willie's a punishing tackler, a knockout hitter, instead of being a finesse tackler or a sure tackler. About the only thing sure about Willie's tackles is that the other guy will be slow to get up."

By rights, Lanier should just now be entering his vintage years as a pro, in this his sixth season. The NFL experts would have you believe it takes a linebacker five years to recognize the draw play. But as are all the great ones (save Curtis, who detoured through the offensive platoon as a rookie), Lanier has been an instant terror against all plays.

As the leader of this year's All-NFL team, he is also the leader of a contingent of six Chiefs on the mythical squad, including the two specialists, place kicker Jan Stenerud and punter Jerrell Wilson.

Only the champion Dallas Cowboys can match that number, but it's hard to dispute the right of any of the chosen Chiefs or Cowboys to claim an All-Pro berth — which could explain the general expectation that they'll meet at the end of the year for a classic Super Bowl battle.

Defense is what traditionally determines the champion in the NFL, and that's where this All-Pro countdown begins — with

Willie Lanier this season joins a gallery of MVP greats

Detroit tight end Charlie Sanders takes a breather

Forrest Blue snaps the ball to 49er John Brodie

Lanier and teammate Bobby Bell joined at linebacker by the unique Ted Hendricks of Baltimore. Bell, 6-4 and 230 with great speed and agility, is the perfect model of an outside linebacker, which has come to be the most demanding position in the modern game — part defensive back, part defensive end.

Hendricks, however, is an anomaly at 6-7 and 215. "You look at him," says another All-Pro, Miami's great receiver and blocker, Paul Warfield, "and you think right away — 'I can cut this guy.' But you can't. You got to hit him low and somehow he's three-foot-four instead of six-seven." As for the quarterbacks who try to throw *over* Hendricks, their remarks are unprintable.

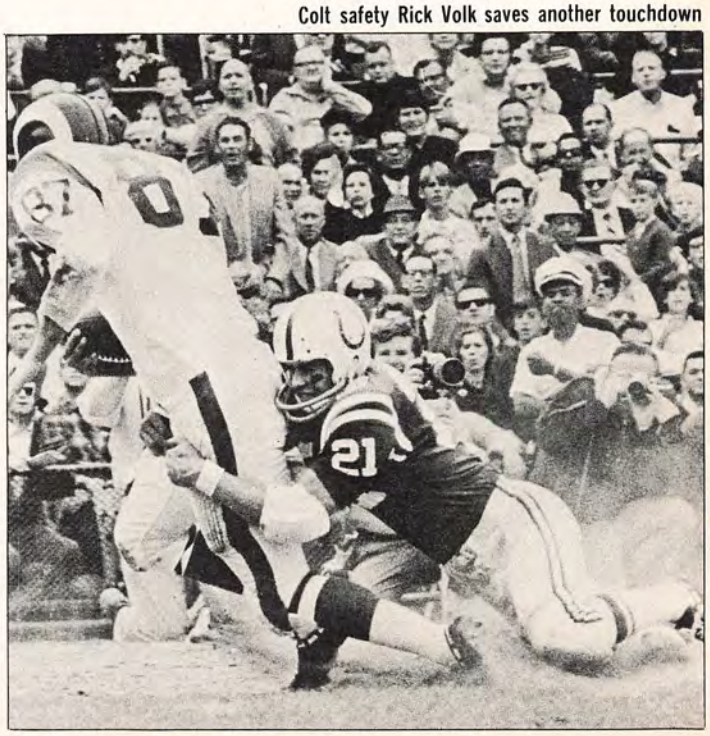
The most fearsome of foursomes, in the current era, is actually only a threesome, plus a loud argument over the other guy you'll name. Alan Page and Bob Lilly are so outstanding at tackle that you find their names constantly linked ("Page and Lilly/ Lilly and Page are the best linemen in the game"). Right there with them is Carl Eller, Page's partner in destroying ball games from defensive end. Since the decline of Deacon Jones there has been no unanimous fourth to fill out this trio, perhaps because the best of the rest has been playing for a losing team, way up in the Rockies, and last year played hurt. Rich Jackson, even coming off a knee injury, should be regarded a notch above the others, such as Claude Humphrey at Atlanta and Cedrick Hardman (another knee case) at San Francisco. Perhaps Fred Dryer, relocated at Los Angeles, is another contender.

At cornerback are a pair of "pros' pros," defenders who awe opposing passers so fully that they get very little business. Mel Renfro of Dallas and Jimmy Johnson of the 49ers have only one challenger at their position — each other. While experts argue which is superior, they'll both belong on any all-pro team.

The two safeties, Bill Bradley and Rick Volk, add the flavor of

Duane Thomas running to daylight

Colt safety Rick Volk saves another touchdown



youth to the defensive backfield. Bradley, a beautifully-roaming free safety who angers opponents with his aggressiveness and his showmanship (dancing backwards across the goal line, for instance, at the end of a 70-yard interception return, holding the ball aloft), led the league last year in interceptions. In only his fifth year as a pro, Bradley should be a fixture at the position as Larry Wilson of St. Louis edges into the wings. Volk, combining the talents of both strong and free safety, has almost become such a fixture already, though he too is only a bare five years old in the league.

The offensive platoon begins at quarterback, and there is no way to escape the nomination of Roger Staubach — at least, until Joe Namath puts another of his full seasons together and reclaims his rightful throne. Staubach did everything you expect from a quarterback last season — led the entire NFL in passing, and led his team to the Super title as its MVP in the clutch. And he did it in only his third year as a pro, and without being acknowledged Number 1 on his own team until seven league games had passed. In 18 games, Dallas has lost only once when Staubach was the starter (and perhaps the Cowboys had too little faith that one day, when trailing only 6-3).

The Cowboys have generally been regarded — patronizingly, at that — as a star-studded team which couldn't win when it counted. The load of talent on offense will now reap the rewards of a champion — Duane Thomas at running back with Floyd Little of Denver, John Niland at guard with Larry Little of Miami, and Rayfield Wright at tackle with Jim Tyrer of Kansas City.

Perhaps the telltale matchup of last year's playoff series was the one that found Niland going against Alan Page and Wright going against Carl Eller, in the Cowboys' crucial victory en route to the Super Bowl title. Page and Eller can dominate a game,

Ted Hendricks, Baltimore LB

Philly safety Bill Bradley

wreck an offense — a factor upon which the Vikings have even come to rely. But Niland and Wright fought them to a standstill in one of the great "line play" games of the last decade.

Again, age is supposed to be the *sine qua non* of the offensive lineman's trade, but there is a lot of youth (except for 11-year vet Tyrer) in this group. It is typified by center Forrest Blue, the 49er "baby" with but four years NFL experience. Blue, at 6-5 and 260, brings a new dimension to the position, where only agility and quickness were once rated foremost. In today's defenses, you also need a hoss the size of Blue to truly "anchor" the line up the middle.

Denver's Little astonishes people with 1,000-yard years, but the fellow alongside him may astonish fans even more, if he ever gets to play a full season. Unlike other backs, Duane Thomas has no injury problem, and may yet prove to be as endurable as his erstwhile hero, Jim Brown. Thomas was amazing last season after reporting without benefit of training camp or an exhibition season.

The criterion for the three receivers is that each must be capable of turning a game around on his own. Certainly, Detroit's Charlie Sanders — the perfect combination of flanker-back and offensive tackle — fills that bill at tight end. Lion quarterback Greg Landry looks to him for the game-winning catch in the two-minute period.

The wide men, Warfield of Miami and Otis Taylor of KC, are likewise gamebreakers in the clutch. Warfield's two bomb-TDs almost singlehandedly powered Miami to the Super Bowl, and Taylor time and again staved off defeat for the Chiefs. Taylor, at 6-3 and 215, is huge enough to play tight end. This has occurred to Hank Stram, but he likes Taylor where he is.

It would be a cataclysmic event to see this offense go against this defense, but that is almost what happens whenever the Cowboys go against the Chiefs.

FROM LEHIGH TO LONG BEACH

(Continued from page 55) end Arthur Moore. Much of the Hurricane success, however, will be determined by the contribution of a number of junior college transfers.

The only team running the Wishbone in the MVC is West Texas State and big Billy Prichett, a 6-3, 228-pound running back who gained 1,128 yards last year, is one of the reasons why. Gene Mayfield, in his second year out of the schoolboy coaching ranks, has yet to gather enough quality material to return the Buffaloes to the days of Mercury Morris, Duane Thomas, et al.

North Texas State welcomes back a half dozen youngsters declared ineligible on the junior college transfer rule a year ago and has veteran receiver and punter David Yaege (35 catches for 631 yards) back.

Southwest Conference member elect Houston, a Top 20 regular for the past six years, needs a rebuilding job which coach Bill Yeoman has never faced. The loss of skilled Veer-T operators like quarterback Gary Mullins and running backs Robert Newhouse and Tommy Mozisek plus a dangerous schedule places a great deal of pressure on a talented but green group of youngsters who must fill several of the vacancies. D. C. Nobles, who saw limited action as a back-up quarterback last year, looks like the heir apparent at that spot while a pair of promising sophomores, Milton Ward and Marshall Johnson, will likely be trying to take up where the Newhouse-Mozisek duo left off. End Bill Stohler, safety Burl Fuller and cornerback Randy Peacock are the only defensive veterans returning.

New Twist in Wild West: An Indian Rules Supreme

Followers of the Pacific Eight Conference are talking of a "New Look" featuring three new head coaches and a raft of new quarterbacks who'll go under the gun for the first time as only three schools opened spring drills with a veteran at the man-under spot.

Washington, however, wasn't one of those in search of a new leader; a fact that places the Huskies squarely on the hot seat as the countdown for the '72 campaign begins. Back for his third year as a starter is Sonny Sixkiller, the deadly swift passer who threw for 2,068 yards and 13 touchdowns last year for an offense which lived and died by his arm. He'll again have such noteworthy receivers as all-conference split end Tom Scott, John Brady, Scott Loomis and Denny Brimhall on hand but there is a need to establish a more productive running attack if pressure is to be taken off the passing game. With that in mind, coach Jim Owens has flirted with the idea of moving Scott to tailback. Leading candidates for the backfield spots include Larry Dumas, Pete Taggares, Willie Hendricks and Jim Eicher. Protection for Sixkiller will come from an experienced line led by tackle Rick Hayes and guard Dave Enders. All-Pac 8 cornerback Calvin Jones and safety Bill Cahill rank with the best around. The tough ones in the defensive line are tackle Gordy Guinn and end Kurt Matter. If linebacking help is found for veteran Bob Ferguson, Washington should be hard to score against.

At Southern Cal they are keeping a close watch on powerful running back Sam Cunningham who is returning after knee surgery. If healthy (and it looks as if he will be), the Trojans backfield could be rugged. Mike Rae returns at quarterback after sharing duties with Jim Jones but is getting a stiff push from sophomore Pat Haden.

Haden and a youngster named John McKay, Jr., a flanker, led the USC frosh to an unbeaten year last fall. Joining Cunningham on the list of backs are Rod McNeill (coming back from a hip injury) and sophomore Allen Carter. Speedy

wide receiver Edesel Garrison and tight end Charles Young rank with the best in the nation. Spearheading the offensive line will be tackle Pete Adams, center Dave Brown and guards Allan Graf and Mike Ryan. All-conference John Grant returns experience to the defensive forward wall while Artimus Parker and Steve Fate head the secondary. Sophomore Richard Wood and returning starter Charles Anthony lead the linebacking parade.

Defending champion Stanford introduces new coach Jack Christiansen, new quarterback Mike Boryla, and a new nick-

name along with enough holdover talent to rate as a strong contender. Joining Boryla on the offensive will be experienced veterans like running backs John Winesberry and Reggie Sanderson, tight end Bill Scott, split end Miles Moore and guards Younger Klippert and Lee Fair. Only four starters return to the defense where sophomores, redshirts and junior college transfers are likely to figure into the picture. Heading the cast, however, will be end Roger Cowan, tackle Pierre Perreault, linebacker Jim Merlo and backs Charles McCloud and Randy Poltl.

Dick Enright, an assistant last year, steps into the head job at Oregon and immediately inherits a talented offensive weapon in the form of quarterback Dan Fouts who passed for 1,564 yards and a 50 per cent completion average in nine games last year. On hand to complement Fouts' ability are such veterans as split end Greg Specht and Greg Lindsey, a bevy of gifted sophomore receivers and running back Jim Anderson. The forward wall will be led by center Chuck Bradley, tackle Tim Stokes and guard LeFrancis Arnold. Defense, the trouble spot a year ago, is still not solid but does have steadying forces like tackle Tim Guy, cornerbacks Greg Brosterhous, Dave Pieper and Fred Manuel and end Keith Davis. If help arrives at linebacker and in the secondary, things could look up for the Ducks.

California, with Mike White moving to the head coaching spot, will depend heavily on juco transfers, redshirts and sophomores this fall despite the return of 21 lettermen. The key to success rests at quarterback where part-time starters Jay Cruze and Reed Chastang return along with sophomore candidate Steve Bartowski, who broke all of Craig Morton's old frosh records. Veterans on hand include flanker Steve Sweeney and running back Steve Kemnitzer and kicking specialist Ray Wersching. Returning on the defense are tackles Bob Kampa and Mark Wendt, end Bill Backstrom, cornerback Clarence Duren and linebacker Loren Toews.

Pepper Rodgers prepares for his second year as head coach at UCLA with new enthusiasm, new excitement and a new offense. The Bruins will go with the Wishbone this fall and there will at long last be a youngster named James McAlister on hand at running back after his much publicized ineligibility. Quarterbacking is the key to the Wishbone's success, however, and converted defensive back Rob Scribner and juco transfer Mark (son of Tom) Harmon are the men to watch at the man-under spot. Joining McAlister as high octane runners are fullback Gary Campbell, halfback Randy Tyler and Kermit Johnson who rushed for 414 yards (a 5.1 average) until he broke his ankle in the seventh game of his sophomore year. Three starters return in the line with tackle Bruce Walton and split end Terry Vernoy heading the list. Much attention was dealt to shoring up the defense during the spring since ends Cal Peterson and Fred McNeill are the lone returning vets. The secondary, manned by such people as Allan Ellis, Alan Lemmerman and Jim Bright, could develop into a strong point.

Only two offensive starters return at Oregon State, placing a heavy load of responsibility on a defense which close observers say might be one of the best in the Pac 8. Such notables as linebackers Steve Brown and Butch Wicks, tackles Duane Defrees and Scott Woods and safety Jim Lilly will form the foundation of the unit. The most gaping hole left by graduation is at quarterback where Dee Andros must depend on a pair of redshirts, Tom Hickey and Bob McKenzie, to step forward and direct the attack. Mike Maestri and Mike Davenport look like heirs apparent to the running back chores and guards Rob Jurgenson and Terry Nimz will anchor the offensive line.

Washington State coach Jim Sweeney faces the task of replacing his entire offensive interior as only two-year starter Jim Forrest, a tight end, returns up front. If help arrives in the trenches, WSU could surprise with option specialist Ty Paine returning at quarterback and 9.7 speedster Gordon Yeomans likely to move into a running back spot. Ken Grandberry will again work at fullback. The defense, which showed marked improvement last year, figures to be stronger with cornerback Robin Sinclair, linebacker Tom Poe and safeties Harry Thompson and Eric Johnson leading the way.

Western Athletic Conference fans, who must have become used to pinball machine type scoring by now, are in for more of the same this year as much of last season's explosive firepower is back.

Fiesta Bowl champion Arizona State returns its entire backfield which rattled the scoreboard at a 41.7 clip last

season. All-WAC halfback Woodrow Green rushed for 1,209 as a sophomore and will be joined by fullback Ben Malone (857 yards in eight games) and wingback Steve Holden, the all-the-way threat who averaged almost nine yards a rush and 22 yards per reception during last year's 11-1 season. Triggering the above mentioned ammunition is veteran quarterback Danny White who came to Tempe to devote his abilities to making the baseball team. Brent McClanahan, who held the No. 1 fullback job until injuries forced him to give way to Malone, is also back to bid for his old spot. All-conference tight end Joe Petty heads the line brigade and the linebacking corps of Larry Delbridge, James Baker and incoming sophomore Bob Breunig looks strong.

Arizona ranks as something of a rarity in that it is, by reputation, a defense-oriented team in an offense-crazed brotherhood. Fifteen starters return for a 5-6 club that was better than its won-lost mark indicated. Leading the defense will be cornerback Jackie Wallace, who will also again handle punt return duties after taking three back for scores last year, and end Bob Crum, a 6-5, 240-pounder who ranks with the loop's best.

New Mexico closed out the season last year with point totals of 34, 57, 49, 49 and 21 and counts 12 returning starters. The only pure Wishbone offense in the conference, the Lobos will depend on the running of halfback Fred Henry who picked up 1,129 yards last year as a junior. Gone is field general Rocky Long, leaving back-up man Randy Boone and UCLA transfer Lewis Thomas to battle for the job. Heading the line brigade is All-WAC tackle John Urban.

LaVell Edwards moves up from defensive coordinator to head coach at Brigham Young and expects a strong running game and good defensive secondary. Primarily a running team for the past several years, there is no drastic change in sight with people like fullback Dave Coon and running back Pete Van Valkenburg back in the stables. Safety Dan Hansen, who picked off seven passes, and cornerback Dave Atkinson, who stole nine, return along with such line stalwarts as tackle Paul Howard and sophomore end Orrin Olsen, brother of pros Merlin and Phil.

Colorado State, with seven starters off a team which lost eight straight before tasting victory last year, faces a suicidal schedule which calls for it to meet three bowl teams — Iowa State, Houston and Florida State — in addition to their league foes. So drastic was the injury problem last year that no less than seven linebackers were sidelined at one point. Help is anticipated from a number of juco transfers but coach Jerry Wampfler must find replacements at such key spots as quarterback and running back if the Rams are to keep pace.

The University of Texas at El Paso has nine starters back off a team which went 5-6 but won only once in league play. Quarterback Gary Keithley returns after a superlative year (1,374 yards passing and a 56.4 completion percentage), considering the weakness of the Miners' forward wall. Defensively, all-conference linebacker Tony Perea is back. The schedule is again tough, forcing UTEP to battle the likes of New Mexico, Arizona and Arizona State on successive weekends.

Don Van Galder, back-up quarterback last year until Gordon Longmire was injured, inherits the man-under role at Utah and will pilot a backfield which holds promise with the return of fullback Mickey Conway and halfback Gene Belczyk. The Utes never got untracked last year and even when it looked as if they might, things went sour. For instance, they scored 39 points against New Mexico — and lost the game by 18.

Wyoming is still rebuilding after the infamous Wyoming 14 incident and faces the problem of replacing quarterback Gary Fox who passed for 2,336 yards last year. Fourteen starters are back from a 5-6 club, including split receiver Scott Freeman, tackle Nick Bebout and safety Ed Schmidt.

Gifted Tony Adams, eighth ranked in total offense in the nation last year, returns along with three other offensive and four defensive regulars at Utah State. He'll be throwing again to standout flanker Tom Forzani (45 catches last year) while much of the running work will go to Jerry Hughes. Free safety Phil Shelley is the lone returnee from a secondary that intercepted 30 passes in last year's 8-3 season.

The Air Force Academy faces one of the most ambitious schedules in its history as it squares off against such national powers as Arizona State, Notre

Dame and Colorado. The Falcons, 6-4 a year ago, return six offensive and four defensive regulars including quarterback Rich Haynie and flankers Frank Murphy and Greg Smith. The running game, depleted by graduation, must be rebuilt and there is a desperate need for instant maturity at linebacker and defensive tackle.

San Diego State, now playing as an independent, opens the season minus the heart of the heralded passing attack which ranked as the best in the country last year. Back-up quarterback Bill Donckers and redshirt Jesse Fretas are battling for the No. 1 job and some of the receiving strength will be bolstered by the move of Issac Curtis to split end. Running backs Adam Victoria and Samson Horne return but only massive Tuffy Avii, SDS's 6-7½, 330-pound guard, is back in the problem-dotted forward wall. Things look less shaky on defense with a promising crew of linebackers led by Bill Ferguson, a secondary that finds three regulars back, and a forward wall that will be manned entirely by lettermen and juco transfers.

Idaho's Vandals come off the best record (8-3) the school has ever had and should again be the class of the Big Sky Conference. Now playing in a new Tartan-turfed stadium, Don Robbins' troops will be led by veteran quarterback Rick Seefried and running backs Bernie Rembert, Randy Peterson, both veterans, and 205-pound junior college transfer Randy Ammerman. Linebacker Randy Marquess and safety Steve Hunter are in the defensive spotlight.

Cal State (Long Beach), now enjoying major college status, looks to be the top team in the Pacific Coast Athletic Association. Back on hand is premier running back Terry Metcalf who rushed for 1,069 yards last year and scored an NCAA record 29 touchdowns. The line will be anchored by all-league center Steve Hammitt.

USC hopes ride with Sam Cunningham

The linebacking duo of Emanuel Armstrong and Bill Brown joins all-league tackle Cody Jones in a San Jose defense which could be the best in the PCAA. Junior Travis McMichael apparently has the quarterback job sewed up, and fullback Dale Knott returns after sitting out much of last year with injuries. The secondary looms as the big question mark.

College of Pacific will go more to the dropback and option style of attack, featuring quarterback Carlos Brown, the nation's tenth-ranked passer a year ago with 1,607 yards. Leading rusher Mitchell True and speedy Willard Harrell return in the backfield. Leading the defense will be all-conference safety Pete Carroll and tackle Jim Sutton.

Transfer running back Bob Tillman is the talk at Fresno State where 16 junior college transfers are due to lend a hand. Quarterback John Behrens, running back Larry Miller and receivers Gene Austin, Daren Gee and Mike Harris lend experience to the offense. All-League cornerback Dwayne Crump and linebacker Gary Weaver are the top men on what could be a strong defense.

Cal State (Los Angeles) will sport a freshman dominated squad as it tones down its schedule. Back after an injury will be quarterback Jim Sander to direct the Devils attack.

How they'll finish

Pac 8

Washington, Southern Cal, Stanford, Oregon, California, UCLA, Oregon State, Washington State.

WAC

Arizona State, Arizona, New Mexico, Brigham Young, Colorado State, UTEP, Utah, Wyoming, Utah State.

PCAA

California State (Long Beach), San Jose State, College of Pacific, Fresno State, California State (Los Angeles).

Independents

Winners: Air Force, San Diego State.

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Where? Right there in the picture. Because these kids won't let an acne blemish problem bother them. No way! Not when they're using Clearasil Acne Medication. It's the serious blemish medicine.

Contains the same kind of medicines many dermatologists use. Clearasil contains drying medicine to drink up excess oil, skin-peeling medicine to help remove dead skin cells, and anti-bacterial medicine to help control bacteria associated with pimples and acne.

Works directly on blemishes. Clearasil is an ointment that lets you put its medicines right on acne blemishes to help dry up and heal them. Clearasil comes in Vanishing Formula that doesn't show — it works invisibly on your face so no one knows you're using it. Or try Clearasil Regular Tinted — it helps hide blemishes while it works.

Fights excess oil, too. Smooth Clearasil on those oily areas around your nose and chin. It will help dry up the excess oil that you usually have with an acne blemish problem. After all, Clearasil is the most serious kind of blemish medicine you can get without a prescription. And you can choose either form, Vanishing Formula or Regular Tinted.

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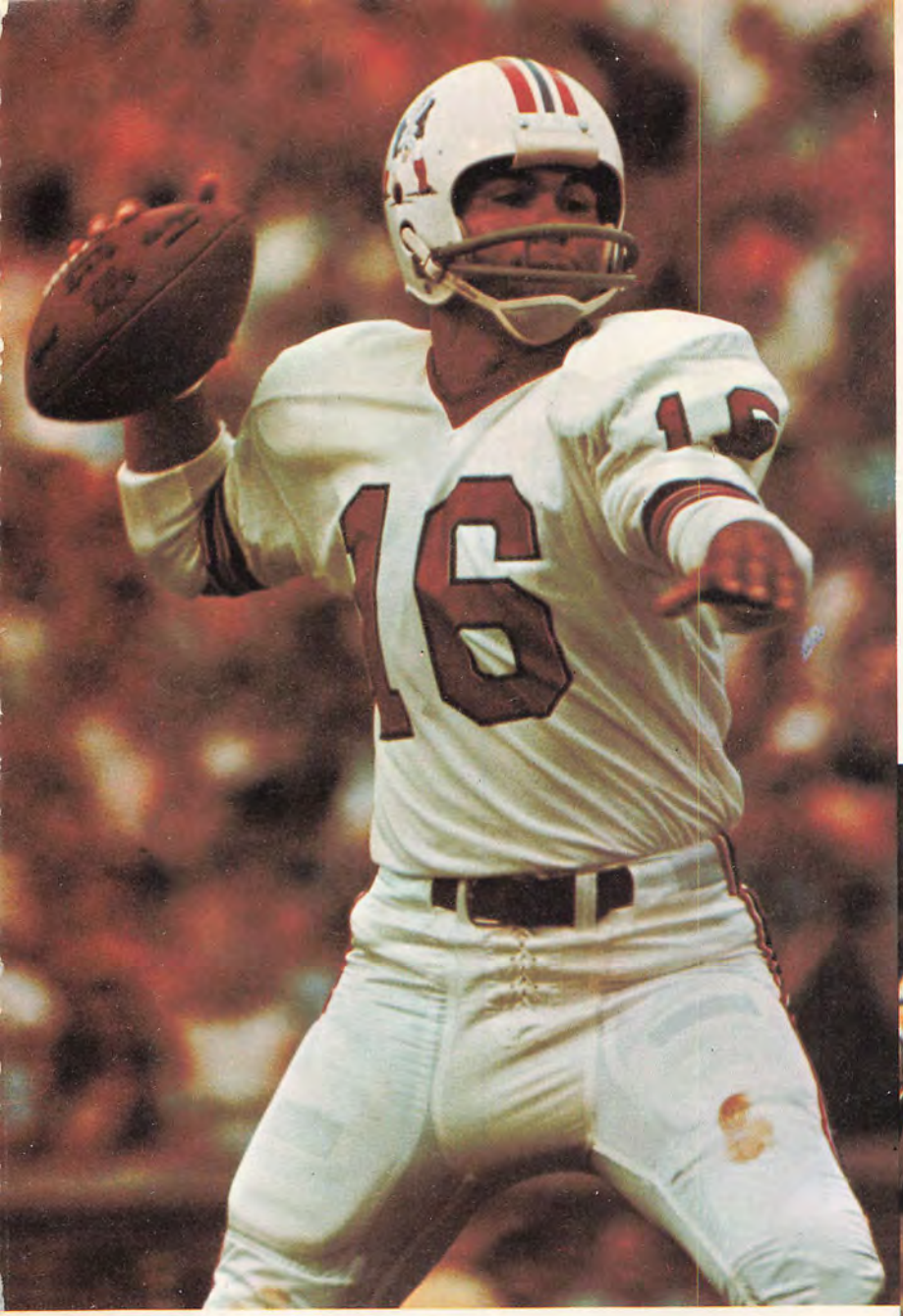
Clearasil...for the blemish age.

The Duel Goes On



The great young quarterbacks keep arriving in the NFL — Terry Bradshaw at Pittsburgh, Dennis Shaw at Buffalo, Dan Pastorini at Houston. But there are two of this new era whose careers will forever be intertwined, two boys of summer from 1970.

That was a particular summer of antic campaigning for the Heisman Trophy, trumpets from the West for Jim Plunkett of Stanford, a bugle call from the South for Archie Manning of Ole Miss. Plunkett went on to win the honor, and both went on to join downtrodden teams of the NFL and begin at least a decade when their talents will be compared in league statistics — and occasionally, as this December, be matched on the football field, when Plunkett's New England Patriots and Archie's Saints do battle at New Orleans.

"It ought to be a great game," says Manning, "because Jim and I have a lot in common. Neither one is exactly surrounded by the greatest personnel in the world. We both took a good beating last year."

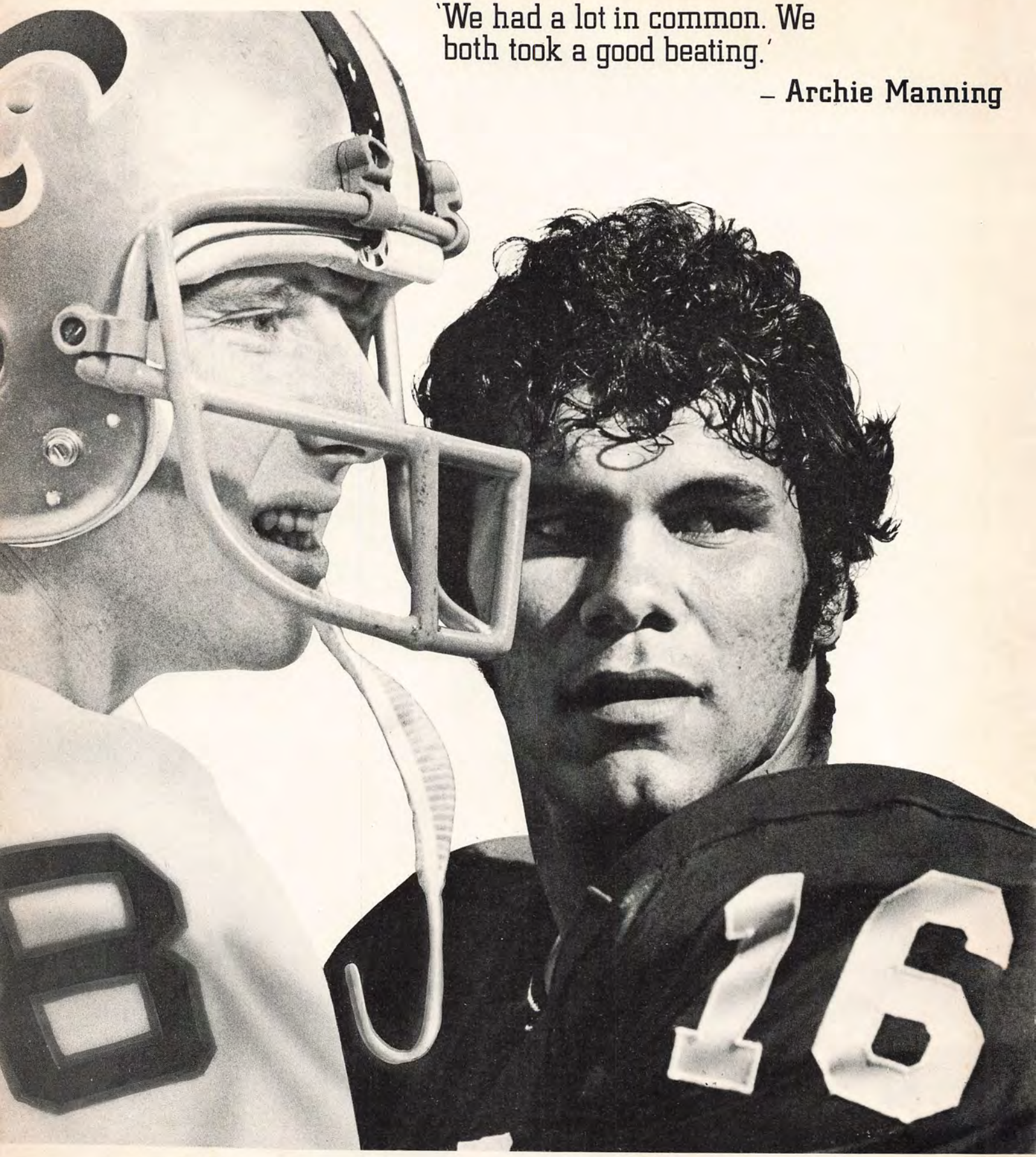
Plunkett, on paper, has jumped off to an early lead over Manning after just one year of their professional lives. He was American Conference rookie-of-the-year (courtesy of United Press International), the author of 19 touchdown passes, and he was the Patriots' quarterback on every offensive down for all 14 games — a feat of endurance never before recorded in the NFL at that position.

Manning, however, had his moments, and those who saw him direct upsets of the LA Rams and the Dallas Cowboys were convinced he will be a star of the future. First, there is the learning process.

"I had dinner with Jim last January in Los Angeles," Manning says, "when Wheaties had the rookie-of-the-year dinner, and we talked over the season. What

'We had a lot in common. We both took a good beating.'

– **Archie Manning**



we agreed was how much more complex it is from college. I mean, even more than we'd been told it would be. In college, we ran a very simple system, about 10 per cent dropback passes, and I never read a defense. Most of the time I would sprint out and have two men to throw to, and I'd just pick out the open man."

Pass defenses weren't the only shocker for Manning. "I couldn't believe the speed and agility of the defensive ends and tackles. I felt like I had pretty good speed and pretty good moves, but I got outside and here was a 260-pound guy chasing me down who was as fast and quick as I was."

Plunkett's indoctrination was equally traumatic, and it came in the summertime. "We were 1-and-5 in the exhibition season," he says, "and I had never been in a situation before where I couldn't move a team. I'd never been shut out, and twice we only scored three points. What was happening to me was the defenses were fooling me a lot. They'd give me one look and break into another defense entirely when the ball was snapped. And I underestimated the speed of the defensive backs. There were other times when my receivers got knocked down just as I went to release the ball."

Manning's first disappointment was the discovery that his "school" days were not over. "When I left Ole Miss," he says, "I thought, 'Oh, boy, no more classes, no more cramming for exams.' Heck, I got to the Saints and I studied more than I ever did in my life before. Every night I went home with game films and hit the playbook."

Neither player is too darned happy about learning the game under adverse conditions — that is, playing for the Patriots and Saints. "It got a little hectic," Plunkett says. "I ran the ball 42 times, and I got trapped 36 times. Considering that (John) Brodie got trapped only eight times last year, that's a lot of trouble." Manning's figures were similar: 40 traps, 32 runs.

In separate votes, taken half a continent apart, Plunkett and Manning came up with a surprise choice of a defensive end who gave them the most nightmares: Elvin Bethea of Houston. "That guy kept screaming at me," Manning said. "I don't think he likes to see the quarterback run around back there. He'd yell at me, 'I'm going to kill you . . . Quit running, or I'll kill you!"

After also nominating Bethea, Plunkett laughed when Manning's comment was repeated to him. "He did the same to me," he said. "He squawked the whole game. He said, 'Next time you run, I'm going to get your head.' "

Plunkett has an understanding why the defensive linemen would prefer quarterbacks to stay in the pocket "where they belong." "When they're chasing us around," Plunkett said, "they're scared of being blind-sided and getting a knee torn up."

For a young quarterback in the NFL, one of the more dismal rules of thumb has been the accepted formula that it takes five years to learn the trade. As you would expect, Manning and Plunkett don't go along with that, or even with the knockdown to a three-year formula as achieved by Roger Staubach with Dallas last season.

"You can't set a number of years on it," Manning says. "If Staubach had been with the Saints, I don't think they would have been in the Super Bowl. He had a terrific team behind him. A rookie could have quarterbacked Dallas and they would have made a good run at it. I can see that it may take three or four years to get adjusted and be in complete control of a situation. I mean, when you face third-and-eight and you've *got* to have it. But there will still be some things after 10 years that you've got to learn and improve on."

Says Plunkett: "I don't agree with putting a label on things. I guess there hasn't been a rookie quarterback win the title since Bobby Waterfield with — who? — the Cleveland Rams, 1945? But a young guy could do it again if he had the team with him. Take Staubach, in his third year, but he was a very mature person because he'd been an officer in the Navy for four years. It all depends on the individual and his situation, not any formula."

Plunkett and Manning both broke into the NFL with stunning upsets on the same opening Sunday of the season. Plunkett riddled Oakland, and Manning ran a slant at end to squeeze the winning touchdown past the Rams. Later, Manning scored two running touchdowns against Dallas and threw for another, almost knocking the Cowboys out of the race. Plunkett finished up the season with back-to-back upsets of a pair of playoff teams from his division, Miami and Baltimore.

A pair of Dallas Cowboys, who met Manning and Plunkett on successive weekends, have objective opinions about the pair. Says cornerback Mel Renfro: "Manning seems to have a better idea of what he's doing back there, reading the defenses and moving with it."

And Bob Lilly: "Manning moves a lot better, and he throws just as good, but if he doesn't stop all that running, he's going to get killed."

Which is exactly the sort of thing Elvin Bethea kept trying to scream at both of them last season. Fatherly advice.

Fourteen Weeks

		ATLANTA FALCONS	DALLAS COWBOYS	GREEN BAY PACKERS	CHICAGO BEARS	DETROIT LIONS	LOS ANGELES RAMS	MINNESOTA VIKINGS	NEW ORLEANS SAINTS	NEW YORK GIANTS	PHILADELPHIA EAGLES	SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS	ST LOUIS CARDINALS	WASHINGTON REDSKINS	BALTIMORE
1	SEPT 17-18	CHI	PHIL	CLEVE	ATL	NY GTS	N O	WASH (M)	L A	DET	DAL	S DIEGO	BALT	MINN (M)	St L
2	SEPT 24-25	N ENG	NY GTS	OAK	L A	MINN	CHI	DET	K C (M)	DAL	CLEVE	BUFF	WASH	St L	NY JETS
3	OCT 1-2	L A	G BAY	DAL	DET	CHI	ATL	MIAMI	S F	PHIL (M)	NY GTS (M)	N O	PITT	N ENG	BUFF
4	OCT 8-9	DET	PITT	CHI	G BAY	ATL	S F	St L	NY GTS	N O	WASH	L A	MINN	PHIL	S DIEGO
5	OCT 15-16	N O	BALT	DET (M)	CLEVE	G BAY (M)	PHIL	DEN	ATL	S F	L A	NY GTS	WASH	St L	DAL
6	OCT 22-23	G BAY	WASH	ATL	MINN (M)	S DIEGO	CINCY	CHI (M)	S F	St L	K C	N O	NY GTS	DAL	NY JETS
7	OCT 29-30	S F	DET (M)	MINN	St L	DAL (M)	OAK	G BAY	PHIL	WASH	N O	ATL	CHI	NY GTS	MIAMI
8	NOV 5-6	L A	S DIEGO	S F	DET	CHI	ATL	N O	MINN	DEN	St L	G BAY	PHIL	NY JETS	N ENG (M)
9	NOV 12-13	N O	St L	CHI	G BAY	MINN	DEN	DET	ATL	WASH	HOU	BALT	DAL	NY GTS	S F
10	NOV 19-20	WASH (M)	PHIL	HOU	S F	N O	MINN	L A	DET	St L	DAL	CHI	NY GTS	ATL (M)	CINCY
11	NOV 23-26-27	DEN	S F (T)	WASH	CINCY	NY JETS (T)	N O	PITT	L A	PHIL	NY GTS	DAL (T)	MIAMI (M)	G BAY	N ENG
12	DEC 3-4	HOU	St L	DET	MINN	G BAY	S F (M)	CHI	NY JETS	CINCY	WASH	L A (M)	DAL	PHIL	BUFF
13	DEC 9-10-11	S F	WASH (*)	MINN	PHIL	BUFF	St L	G BAY	N ENG	MIAMI	CHI	ATL	L A	DAL (*)	K C
14	DEC 16-17	K C	NY GTS	N O	OAK	L A	DET	S F (*)	G BAY	DAL	St L	MINN (*)	PHIL	BUFF	MIAMI (*)

HOME ■ ROAD □ * — Saturday M — Monday T — Thanksgiving

to the Playoffs

...RE COLTS	BUFFALO BILLS	CINCINNATI BENGALS	CLEVELAND BROWNS	HOUSTON OILERS	DENVER BRONCOS	KANSAS CITY CHIEFS	MIAMI DOLPHINS	NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS	NEW YORK JETS	OAKLAND RAIDERS	PITTSBURGH STEELERS	SAN DIEGO CHARGERS
	NY JETS	N ENG	G BAY	DEN	HOU	MIAMI	K C	CINCY	BUFF	PITT	OAK	S F
	S F	PITT	PHIL	MIAMI	S DIEGO	N O (M)	HOU	ATL	BALT	G BAY	CINCY	DEN
	BALT	CLEVE	CINCY	NY JETS	K C	DEN	MINN	WASH	HOU	S DIEGO	St L	OAK
	N ENG	DEN	K C	OAK (M)	CINCY	CLEVE	NY JETS	BUFF	MIAMI	HOU (M)	DAL	BALT
	OAK	K C	CHI	PITT	MINN	CINCY	S DIEGO	NY JETS	N ENG	BUFF	HOU	MIAMI
	MIAMI	L A	HOU	CLEVE	OAK	PHIL	BUFF	PITT	BALT	DEN	N ENG	DET
	PITT	HOU	DEN	CINCY	CLEVE	S DIEGO	BALT	NY JETS	N ENG	L A	BUFF	K C
	MIAMI	PITT	HOU	CLEVE	NY GTS	OAK	BUFF	BALT (M)	WASH	K C	CINCY	DAL
	NY JETS	OAK	S DIEGO (M)	PHIL	L A	PITT	N ENG	MIAMI	BUFF	CINCY	K C	CLEVE (M)
	N ENG	BALT	PITT	G BAY	OAK	S DIEGO	NY JETS	BUFF	MIAMI	DEN	CLEVE	K C
	CLEVE	CHI	BUFF	S DIEGO	ATL	OAK	St L (M)	BALT	DET (T)	K C	MINN	HOU
	BALT	NY GTS	PITT	ATL	K C	DEN	N ENG	MIAMI	N O	S DIEGO	CLEVE	OAK
	DET	CLEVE (*)	CINCY (*)	PITT	S DIEGO	BALT	NY GTS	N O	OAK (M)	NY JETS (M)	HOU	DEN
	WASH (*)	HOU	NY JETS	CINCY	N ENG	ATL	BALT (*)	DEN	CLEVE	CHI	S DIEGO	PITT

(All Other Games, Sunday)

TV CALENDAR FOR

*fə-'na-tik — *pro football variety: one who is so bananas about the TV games he will cut out these dates along the dotted lines and paste on his own calendar*

SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER
17
DOUBLEHEADER GAME
Miami at Kansas City
NBC

MONDAY
SEPTEMBER
★18★
Washington at Minnesota
ABC

SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER
24
DOUBLEHEADER GAME
Minnesota at Detroit
CBS

MONDAY
OCTOBER
★ 9 ★
Oakland at Houston
ABC

SUNDAY
OCTOBER
15
DOUBLEHEADER GAME
Dallas at Baltimore
CBS

MONDAY
OCTOBER
★16★
Green Bay at Detroit
ABC

SUNDAY
OCTOBER
22
DOUBLEHEADER GAMES
Dallas at Washington
CBS
Cincinnati at Los Angeles
NBC

MONDAY
NOVEMBER
★ 6 ★
Baltimore at New England
ABC

SUNDAY
NOVEMBER
12
DOUBLEHEADER GAME
Detroit at Minnesota
CBS

MONDAY
NOVEMBER
★13★
Cleveland at San Diego
ABC

SUNDAY
NOVEMBER
19
DOUBLEHEADER GAME
Minnesota at Los Angeles
CBS

SUNDAY
DECEMBER
3
DOUBLEHEADER GAME
Dallas at St Louis
CBS

MONDAY
DECEMBER
★4★
Los Angeles at
San Francisco ABC

SATURDAY
DECEMBER
9
Cleveland at Cincinnati
NBC
Washington at Dallas
CBS

SUNDAY
DECEMBER
10
DOUBLEHEADER GAME
Baltimore at Kansas City
NBC

THE PRO FANATIC*

MONDAY
SEPTEMBER
★25★
Kansas City at New Orleans ABC

SUNDAY
OCTOBER
1
DOUBLEHEADER GAME
Miami at Minnesota NBC

MONDAY
OCTOBER
★2★
New York Giants at Philadelphia ABC

SUNDAY
OCTOBER
8
DOUBLEHEADER GAME
San Francisco at Los Angeles CBS

MONDAY
OCTOBER
★23★
Minnesota at Chicago ABC

SUNDAY
OCTOBER
29
DOUBLEHEADER GAME
Miami at Baltimore NBC

MONDAY
OCTOBER
★30★
Detroit at Dallas ABC

SUNDAY
NOVEMBER
5
DOUBLEHEADER GAME
Oakland at Kansas City NBC

MONDAY
NOVEMBER
★20★
Atlanta at Washington ABC

THURSDAY
NOVEMBER
23
New York Jets at Detroit NBC
San Francisco at Dallas CBS

SUNDAY
NOVEMBER
26
DOUBLEHEADER GAME
Kansas City at Oakland NBC

MONDAY
NOVEMBER
★27★
St Louis at Miami ABC

MONDAY
DECEMBER
★11★
New York Jets at Oakland ABC

SATURDAY
DECEMBER
16
Baltimore at Miami NBC
Minnesota at San Francisco CBS

SUNDAY
DECEMBER
17
DOUBLEHEADER GAME
Detroit at Los Angeles CBS

POST-SEASON SCHEDULE

Sat Dec 23 AFC and NFC Divisional Playoffs CBS NBC
Sun Dec 24 AFC and NFC Divisional Playoffs CBS NBC
Sun Dec 31 AFC Championship Game NBC
Sun Dec 31 NFC Championship Game CBS
Sun Jan 14 Super Bowl VII at Los Angeles NBC
Wkend of Jan 21 AFC-NFC Pro Bowl at Dallas CBS

THE MEDALLION AWARD SPORTS COLUMN OF THE YEAR

As you near Fort Dullesville, by Dulles Airport, the sign says: Redskin Rest Retreat, George Allen, Director, Visiting Hours 7-8 p.m.

I took a left and there it was, the shady retreat of Washington's professional football team, a group of men living out their lives with as much comfort as George Allen can provide, old men with thinning hair, men like Sonny Jurgensen, 37, Jack Pardee, 35, Boyd Dowler, 34, Richie Petitbon, 33, Tommy Mason, Myron Pottios, Ron McDole, 32.

"They're a wonderful bunch of folks," the caretaker told me. "Ordinarily, when you get a collection of old geezers together, you get a few cranks. But Mr. Allen has managed to keep everyone happy."

How?

"By keeping their minds off the march of time. By not giving them time to think about hardening of the arteries. Mr. Allen, God bless him, does it in a number of ways—with group singing, card socials, domino tournaments. On Friday nights, he has inaugurated a Jeanette McDonald-Nelson Eddy film festival. Also, for the men with crystal sets, he has gotten a local radio station to revive, 'Stella Dallas,' 'Portia Faces Life' and 'Flash Gordon.' Mr. Allen doesn't miss a trick.

I was particularly interested in the condition of Billy Kilmer, the 32-year-old quarterback. He had gone to the rest retreat from New Orleans where he had a number of infirmities—broken ankle, shoulder separation, torn muscles.

"Mr. Kilmer is getting along just fine," I was told. "He's over there playing checkers with Mr. Allen. It's Mr. Allen's way of keeping his quarterbacks alert. Mr. Allen usually watches while Mr. Kilmer plays Mr. Jurgensen but Mr. Jurgensen has been in intensive care the last month."

What about practice for the games on Sunday? How do the men learn their plays? I looked around and saw Mason, Pardee, Pottios, Petitbon and Dowler sitting on the veranda in rockers, some reading newspapers, some listening to Rudy Vallee records on the victrola.

"This is their way of staying in shape," said the caretaker. "All of them have played the game for so long, little practice is required. Sometimes Mr. Allen will call them together and draw a play on the blackboard. He'll ask them if they've seen the play before. Everyone raises his hand. You have to realize these people have been playing the game for almost 20 years when you count high school and college. When they do throw the ball around on the front lawn, Mr. Allen has periodic breaks for Geritol and plasma."

What about speed? I wondered if Mr. Dowler and Mr. Pardee, for example, had been timed for 40 yards.

"There's no way of telling how fast they can run the 40. When Mr. Allen first got here, he did have wheelchair races. I believe Mr. Dowler did the 40 in 11.6, Mr. Pardee in 12.2, which is really flying for a 35-year-old linebacker, even in a good wheelchair."

Was there a sense of competition among the men?

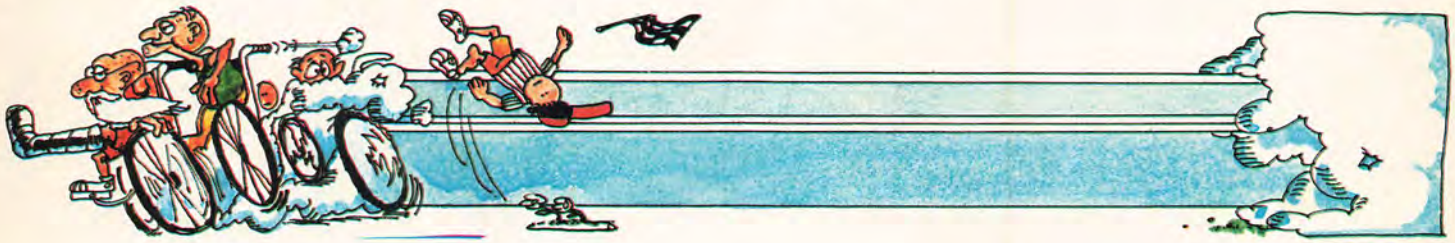
"You bet. They hate to lose, every last one of them. The other night Mr. Mason and Mr. Petitbon were playing cards, a game called 'Fish.'

"'Gimme all your fours,' said Mr. Mason.

"'Fish,' said Mr. Petitbon.

"Later, when Mr. Mason discovered Mr. Petitbon had a four of spades, but refused to give it up, they got into a big shouting match. Mr. Mason came close to breaking his walking cane over Mr. Petitbon's head. It was all Mr. Allen could do to keep them apart.

According to the caretaker, scenes like this are the exception.



"There's real esprit de corps here. On most other teams, you have carousers. All of that is behind these men We have a nine o'clock curfew and no one has broken it. There has been only one minor fine levied. Mr. Pardee got a fruit cake from a lady fan and it had a bit too much whiskey in it. He had a couple of slices and fell over in his rocker. Mr. Allen fined him $5 and he hasn't been a bit of trouble since. In fact, he went out and intercepted three passes against the Cardinals. Had his picture in all the papers."

But will morale suffer after the loss to Kansas City?

"I don't think so. What it means is Mr. Allen will be hanging up more signs. He's big on signs."

A few samples were in evidence:

"Think young—dad gum."

"God loves the Redskins."

"Remember—Congress is behind you."

"Custer was a fink."

I did find it strange that none of the under-30 Redskins, people like Roy Jefferson, Diron Talbert, Larry Brown and Charley Harraway, was around.

"You mean the kiddies," said the caretaker. "They're busy in another building working on a minstrel show for the old timers. I just hope they don't let it take their minds off of football. Mr. Allen never has had much faith in young whipper-snappers."

The Chris Schenkel Medallion Awards

THE HONOR ROLL GROWS

For the third consecutive year the Chris Schenkel Medallion will be awarded to those individuals selected to the SPORTSCENE FOOTBALL preseason All-America and National Football League All-Pro teams.

A 2½ inch bronze medal, featuring a sculptured bas relief likeness of Schenkel, the award is material testimony to the fact that the 48 college and professional players featured in this annual are regarded as the cream of what appears to be another superlative demanding crop. The criterion used in measuring each candidate included a careful evaluation of past performances, competitive spirit, aggressive attitude and his worth to the team on which he plays.

Two additional awards have been added this year to honor a couple of men who may lack muscle and good speed in the 40 but are all-pros in their respective fields. Young John Biever, a Wisconsin freelance photographer, is the recipient of the Medallion Football Photo of the Year award and New Orleans *States* sports editor Pete Finney is the winner of the Football Column of the Year award.

Of course any preseason honor is based partially on speculation of what is to come and it is likely that there will be among the players selected a few who, for one reason or another, do not find a place on the postseason All-America and All-Pro teams. It is felt, however, that those listed within these pages are most deserving of the recognition at this time. Though we have tried to eliminate the guesswork as much as possible, there is a certain amount of it involved. Call it, if you will, anticipation. After all, that, as much as anything, is what the football season, college and professional, is all about.

College

1970

Carlos Alvarez, Florida; Tony Blanchard, North Carolina; Tommy Casanova, LSU; Dan Dierdorf, Michigan; Larry Dinardo, Notre Dame; Chip Kell, Tennessee; Tommy Lyons, Georgia; Jim Plunkett, Stanford; Steve Worster, Texas; Elmo Wright, Houston; Bobby Wuensch, Texas; Bill Atessis, Texas; Joe Ehrmann, Syracuse; Jeff Ford, Georgia Tech; Tom Graham, Oregon; Jack Ham, Penn State; Greg Slough, Southern Cal; Tody Smith, Southern Cal; Tony Stawarz, Miami (Fla.); Jim Stillwagon, Ohio State; Jack Tatum, Ohio State; Charlie Weaver, Southern Cal.

1971

Terry Beasley, Auburn; Mike Creaney, Notre Dame; Tom De Leone, Ohio State; Larry Gatewood, Notre Dame; Ed Marinaro, Cornell; Reggie McKenzie, Michigan; Johnny Musso, Alabama; Jerry Sisemore, Texas; Royce Smith, Georgia; Pat Sullivan, Auburn; John Vella, Southern Cal; Tommy Casanova, LSU; Ralph Cindrich, Pittsburgh; Joe Ehrmann, Syracuse; Clarence Ellis, Notre Dame; Ronnie Estay, LSU; Tom Graham, Oregon; Windlan Hall, Arizona State; Willie Harper, Nebraska; Bobby Majors, Tennessee; Herb Orvis, Colorado; Jackie Walker, Tennessee.

1972

Charles Young, Southern Cal; John Hannah, Alabama; Nick Bebout, Wyoming; Tom Brahaney, Oklahoma; Willie Clayton, Duke; Jerry Sisemore, Texas; Johnny Rogers, Nebraska; Joe Ferguson, Arkansas; Woodrow Green, Arizona State; Greg Pruitt, Oklahoma; Charlie Davis, Colorado; Bruce Bannon, Penn State; Dave Butz, Purdue; Rich Glover, Nebraska; Greg Marx, Notre Dame; Willie Harper, Nebraska; Tom Jackson, Louisville; Harold Sears, Miami (Fla.); Rodrigo Barnes, Rice; Cullen Bryant, Colorado; Brad Van Pelt, Michigan State; Frank Polito, Villanova; Ray Guy, Southern Mississippi; Nick Mike-Mayer, Temple.

NFL

1970

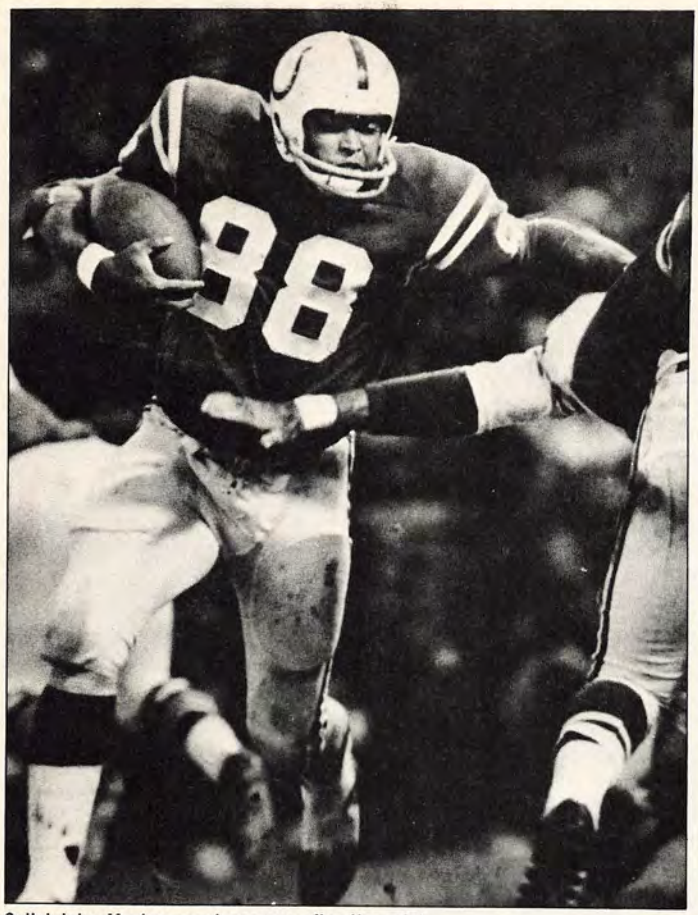
Lance Alworth, San Diego; Bob Brown, Los Angeles; Len Dawson, Kansas City; Gale Gillingham, Green Bay; Gene Hickerson, Cleveland; Floyd Little, Denver; Billy Lothridge, Atlanta; Alvin Reed, Houston; Gale Sayers, Chicago; Mick Tingelhoff, Minnesota; Jim Turner, New York Jets; Jim Tyrer, Kansas City; Paul Warfield, Miami; Lem Barney, Detroit; Willie Brown, Oakland; Buck Buchanan, Kansas City; Dick Butkus, Chicago; Chuck Howley, Dallas; Deacon Jones, Los Angeles; Spider Lockhart, New York Giants; Alan Page, Minnesota; Gerry Philbin, New York Jets; Mel Renfro, Dallas; George Webster, Houston.

1971

Bob Brown, Los Angeles; Bob Greise, Miami; Winston Hill, New York Jets; Ron Johnson, New York Giants; Dave Lewis, Cincinnati; Tom Mack, Los Angeles; Bob Maples, Houston; Charlie Sanders, Detroit; Duane Thomas, Dallas; Jim Turner, Denver; Paul Warfield, Miami; Gene Washington, San Francisco; Gene Upshaw, Oakland; Lem Barney, Detroit; Bobby Bell, Kansas City; Willie Brown, Oakland; Dick Butkus, Chicago; Fred Carr, Green Bay; John Elliott, New York Jets; Rich Jackson, Denver; Alan Page, Minnesota; Johnny Robinson, Kansas City; Bubba Smith, Baltimore; Larry Wilson, St. Louis.

1972

Roger Staubach, Dallas; Floyd Little, Denver; Duane Thomas, Dallas; Otis Taylor, Kansas City; Paul Warfield, Miami; Charles Sanders, Detroit; Rayfield Wright, Dallas; Jim Tyrer, Kansas City; Fred Little, Miami; John Niland, Dallas; Forrest Blue, San Francisco; Carl Eller, Minnesota; Rich Jackson, Denver; Bob Lilly, Dallas; Alan Page, Minnesota; Willie Lanier, Kansas City; Ted Hendricks, Baltimore; Bobby Bell, Kansas City; Mel Renfro, Dallas; Jimmy Johnson, San Francisco; Rick Volk, Baltimore; Bill Bradley, Philadelphia; Jan Stenerud, Kansas City; Jerrell Wilson, Kansas City.



Colts' John Mackey, so dangerous after the catch

O. J. Simpson still looking to break away for Bills

(Cont'd from page 69) should start.

New England won five of its last seven games last season, mainly through the brilliance of its quarterback, Jim Plunkett, and his unlikely recipient Randy Vataha, who once portrayed Mickey Mouse at Disneyland and has the height for it. But Bataha caught two TD's against Miami and another two TD's against Baltimore in the final stretch last season to turn the division title chase upside down. Steve Kiner, a ferocious linebacker, leads the Patriot defense.

The surprise team of the conference, if not the entire NFL, could well be the Buffalo Bills, and the "Comeback Player of the Year" could easily be quarterback Dennis Shaw, a much underrated neophyte who showed flashes of brilliance when he was not overwhelmed by the Bills' shortcomings last season.

Shaw has a great supporting cast of offensive players, beginning with O.J. Simpson, who on single runs showed the form that earned him the Heisman trophy. Orange Juice gained 742 yards last year, including a TD run of 46, which is moving. Then there is Haven Moses, and then there is Marlin Briscoe — an explosive duo at wide receiver which makes a coach cry for a defense so that all those TDs will stand up for a victory. J.D. Hill, hurt last year, may be better than either. Defensive need is why the Bills first draft choice for this season was the top lineman out of college, Walt Patulski of Notre Dame. The Bills are counting on Patulski, and his great pedigree, to lead a defense that will surge them upwards in the standings. It could happen, despite a schedule that includes Oakland, Washington, Detroit and San Francisco.

How They'll Finish

AFC East

	W	L	T
Miami	9	4	1
NY Jets	8	5	1
Baltimore	7	7	0
Buffalo	5	8	1
New England	3	9	2

AFC Central

Terry, King of a Losers Conference, Can Give Pitt First Title

Only in the NFL's "poor boy" division could you find a title contender with so lowly-rated credentials as Pittsburgh. But this should be the year when the Steelers get their first championship of any kind, thanks to their foresight in drafting quarterback Terry Bradshaw two years ago.

Bradshaw came out of little Louisiana Tech into the cold cruel world of the NFL and got stolen blind as a rookie. You wouldn't have blamed him if he'd consulted a psychiatrist, and maybe he did. But last season the kid hit 54 per cent of his passes and the Steelers approached respectability with a 6-8 record.

Bradshaw just has to keep getting better and better or there is no reason to all the NFL scouting reports. The Steelers are building behind him, mainly with a great defensive tackle, Joe Greene. But as a challenger for the "real" title-contending teams of the NFL, Pittsburgh, like the rest of the central division, is nowhere. The Steelers have a woefully young defensive line, and a porous defensive backfield.

That's why the Cleveland Browns won the division title last season almost by default. They seem incapable of doing it this time because they must break in a new quarterback, Mike Phipps, in place of the tragically knee-riddled Bill Nelsen. The Browns, once a proud team, have been degraded by attrition and by ill-timed trades (such as Ron Johnson for Homer Jones, retired, and for that matter, Paul Warfield for the opportunity to draft Phipps).

The Browns are rebuilding in their offensive line, once the hallmark of their team, and the defensive line is not much to brag about.

The dark horse of the division is Houston, where another college coach has lost his virginity into the pro ranks. Bill Peterson, switching from Rice, has looked over the old Oiler films and, in effect, has announced: "Heads will roll." The way Peterson put it: "Past performances won't mean a thing to our staff. The guys that give 100 per cent will do the playing."

For a beginning, Peterson has logged the Oilers into their central-Texas training camp for the duration, almost like a sentence in Huntsville prison.

Peterson, who directed a pro-style attack at Florida State and then at Rice, will recognize the great dropback talents of soph Dan Pastorini most of all. Another soph, Lynn Dickey, was coveted by many NFL clubs and Peterson's first decision was whether to trade Dickey and

Houston QB Dan Pastorini: great, young

The Leroy Kelly Express still rolls at Cleveland

keep vet Charley Johnson as backup man.

The Oilers hope to get a tremendous boost in the defensive line from top draftee Greg Sampson of Stanford, to match Elvin Bethea's great rush from the outside. But, as is true throughout this division, there are so many weak spots in the lineup, there is little hope that a group can be put together for a run at the big title. For one thing, the Oilers do not have any running backs, and for another they have a below-mediocre offensive line.

Should George Webster regain his all-pro form of two years ago, the Oiler defense will have a leader. Ken Houston at safety is a fellow every Houston opponent tries to avoid.

The whole division, of course, is looking over their shoulders at Paul Brown, the wonderman at Cincinnati, who cannot be relied upon too long to remain at the bottom of the stack. Brown took a discard quarterback from Chicago, Virgil Carter, and made him over into a winner almost overnight. But Carter was out last season, and replaced by rookie Ken Anderson.

The tragedy of the Cincy franchise is the injury to Greg Cook, who showed promise to be one of the great ones and who is now half-committed to retiring from pro football altogether because he could never recover from a torn shoulder.

The Bengals meanwhile have developed one of the finest climax runners in the game in Essex Johnson, who scored four TD's last season ranging from beyond 50 yards.

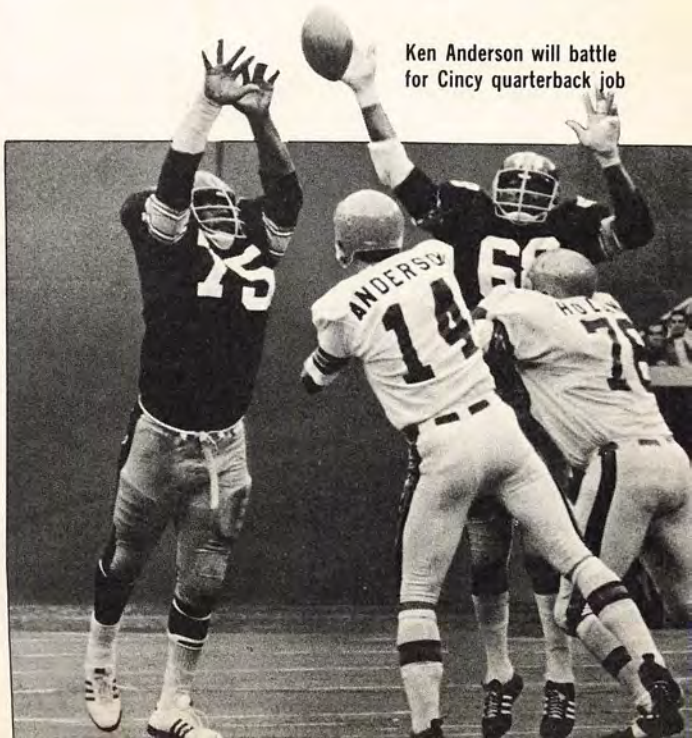
Cincinnati tried to bolster its defense with a top choice of Sherman White, a 6-5 defensive end from California, and he should make a great parlay with the Bengals only other good one, Mike Reid, the piano player from Penn State.

Cincy finished last in this "last place division" race of 1971, but the lineup is so mixed that it could well soar to the top — even with a below-.500 record — to get into the playoffs.

How They'll Finish

AFC Central

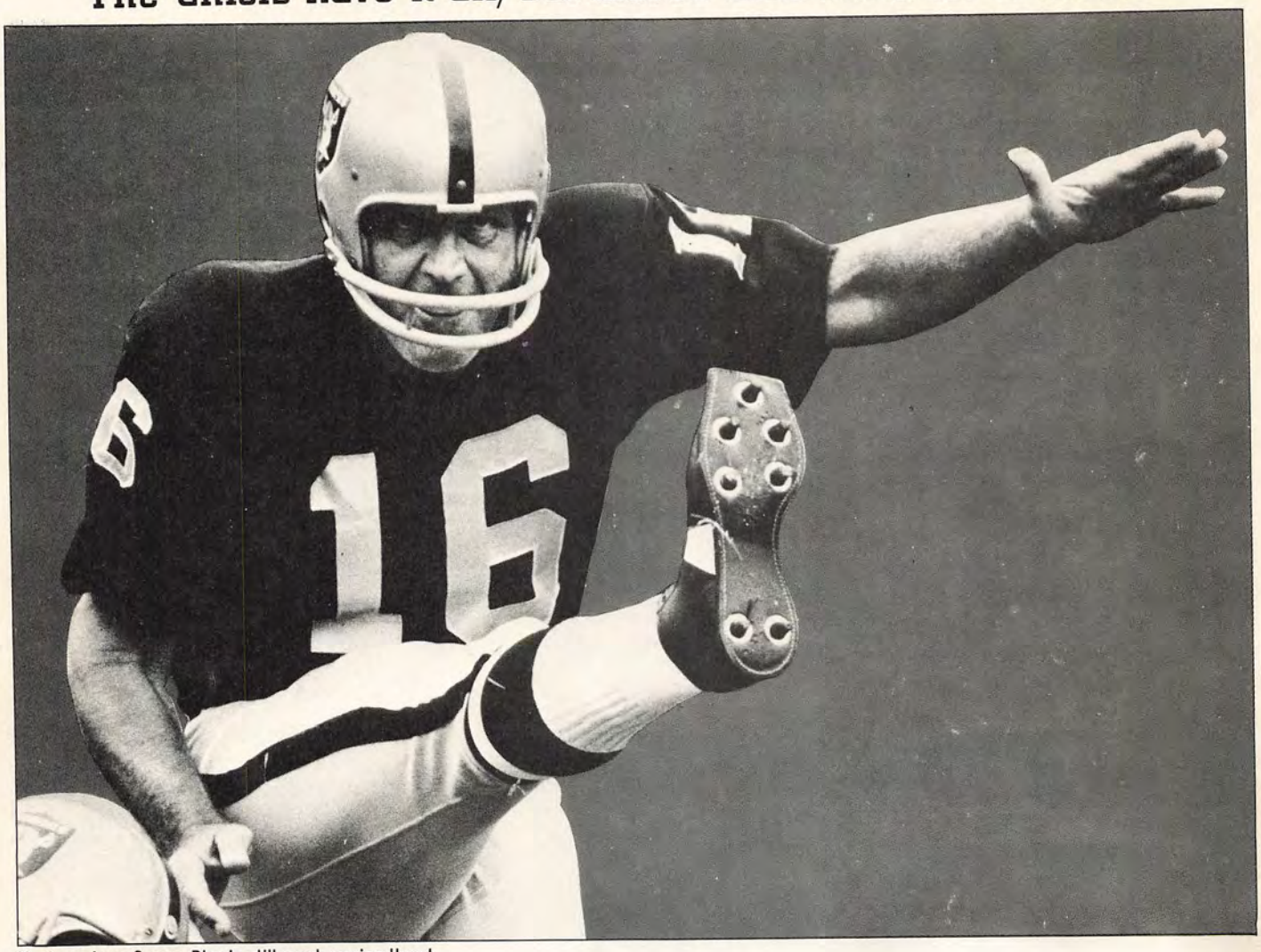
Pittsburgh	7	7	0
Houston	5	8	1
Cleveland	5	9	0
Cincinnati	4	10	0



Ken Anderson will battle for Cincy quarterback job

AFC West

The Chiefs have it all, but there's also room for Oakland



Medicare hero George Blanda still great scoring threat

Hank Stram says he is an "optimist by nature," and is therefore looking ahead this season to a return Super Bowl trip for his Kansas City Chiefs. With the kind of material Stram has on hand, lectures from Norman Vincent Peale are not needed.

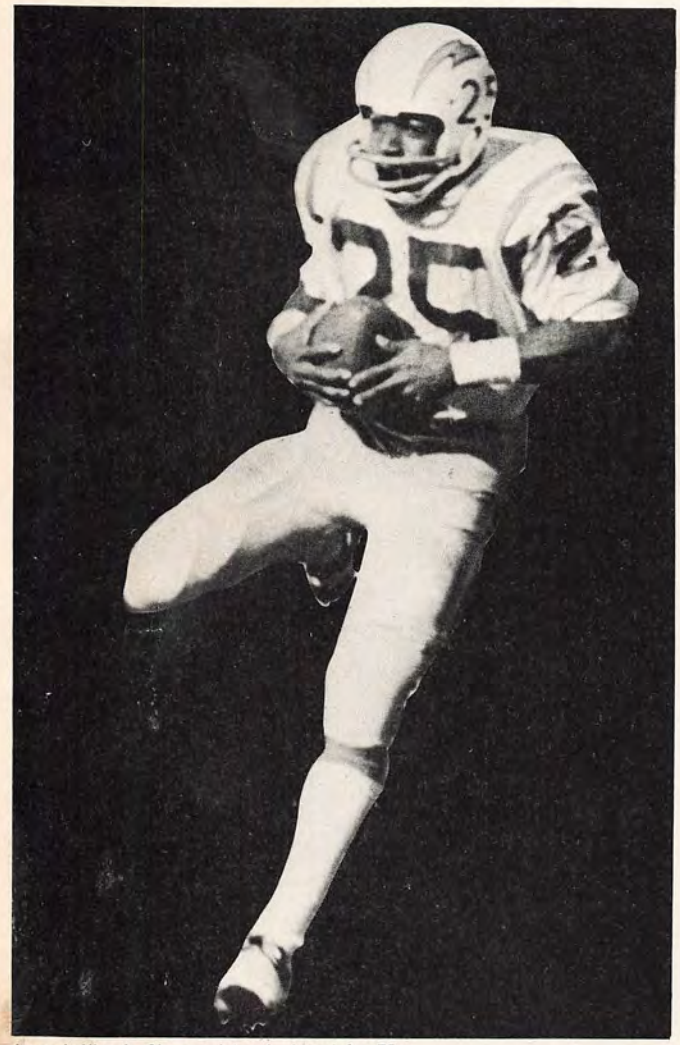
The Chiefs' roster reads almost like an All-Star squad — Lenny Dawson (back for two final years of competition) at quarterback, Otis Taylor, Jim Tyrer, Mo Moorman, Ed Budde all on offense, and Willie Lanier, Bobby Bell, Aaron Brown, Jim Marsalis all on defense.

Stram already has highly capable running backs in Wendell Hayes and Ed Podolak, whom Stram describes as "just coming into his own," and this season they add another tough runner, Jeff Kinney, from Nebraska's college champions.

Kansas City must first deal with old nemesis Oakland in a rugged division battle. The Raiders are the league's winningest team over the last five years (53-12-5) and they had beaten Kansas City five straight times before losing the eliminator last season in the 13th week, 16-14.

But the Raiders are now counting on a healthy Daryle Lamonica, plus a healthy Tom Keating and Gus Otto and Charlie Smith and Hewritt Dixon and Jim Hervey, all of them starters.

It's a wonder that Oakland put together its 8-4-2 mark last year in the midst of that kind of adversity. The Raiders figure to do much better than that this time around, and it may not even be necessary to oust KC from the division lead. There's room enough in the playoffs for both, as one gets in via the Wild Card route.



Jerry LeVias is Chargers' 'spot player' for TDs

Oakland's Fred Biletnikoff eludes Falcon clutch to score

There's not much chance that the other entries in the division can make a run at the top pair. San Diego got Deacon Jones from the Rams and the Deacon promptly announced: "The Chargers got the offense, Deacon will bring the defense." But about all Deacon brings south with him to the Chargers is a big mouth. Quarterback John Hadl powered the club to an NFL top ranking on pass offense, throwing mainly to Gary Garrison. Now the Chargers have added Dave Williams from St. Louis, a great pairing for Garrison.

New coach Harland Svare will have his perennial third-place team battling Denver to stay out of the division cellar. College coach (Stanford) John Ralston plans to revive the Bronco offense, and rookie tight end Riley Odom of Houston should help the passing game mightily. NFL rushing champ Floyd Little will handle the ground chores adequately, but either Don Horn or Steve Ramsey must assert himself at quarterback to give Denver any kind of a chance. The return of Rich Jackson at defensive end will be enough in itself to keep the defense as the strongest department of the team.

How They'll Finish

AFC West

	W	L	T
Kansas City	12	2	0
Oakland	10	4	0
Denver	5	9	0
San Diego	4	9	1

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